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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION
Thirtieth session
7 May-8 June 1990
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.
4. Programme questions:
 - (a) Proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997;
 - (b) Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989;
 - (c) Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993;
 - (d) Evaluation.
5. Co-ordination questions:
 - (a) Cross-organizational programme analysis;
 - (b) Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and preparations for the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;
 - (c) Strengthening co-ordination in the United Nations system.

6. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit.
7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Committee.
8. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirtieth session.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee elected a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. At its twenty-fourth session, the Committee decided that, henceforth, the post of Chairman, as well as the other posts on the bureau, should rotate annually among the regional groups. At its twenty-fifth session, the Committee reaffirmed its decision and adopted the following pattern of rotation for the post of Chairman: (a) Group of African States; (b) Group of Eastern European States; (c) Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; (d) Group of Western European and other States; and (e) Group of Asian States. The Committee decided that rotation according to the above pattern had begun in 1984 with the Group of African States. However, it agreed, on an exceptional basis, to select the Chairman of the Committee in 1986 from the Group of Western European and other States, in 1987 from the Group of Asian States and in 1988 from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States. In 1989, the Committee returned to the agreed pattern of rotation and elected the Chairman of the twenty-ninth session from the Group of African States. At its thirtieth session, the Committee may wish to select the Chairman of the Committee from the Group of Eastern European States, in accordance with the agreed pattern of rotation for the post of Chairman. The Committee also agreed that each year the post of Rapporteur should be occupied by a member of the regional group that occupied the post of Chairman the previous year.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Pursuant to paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 and paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 34/50, the Committee submitted to the Council and the Assembly for their review the provisional agenda for its thirtieth session, together with the list of documentation requested. The present provisional agenda and list of documentation also reflect decisions taken by the Council and the Assembly since the last session of the Committee.

3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

In its resolution 41/213, the General Assembly decided that the recommendations as agreed upon and as contained in the report of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, 1/ should be implemented by the Secretary-General and the relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations in the light of the findings of the Fifth Committee and as specified in that resolution. In resolution 43/213, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General and the

Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to report to the Assembly on the implementation of Assembly resolution 41/213 in accordance with recommendation 71 of the Group, taking into account the views expressed in the Fifth Committee. According to recommendation 71, the Secretary-General and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination were to report to the Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of all the recommendations contained in the report of the Group and approved by the Assembly.

In its resolutions 43/213 and 44/200 A, the General Assembly reiterated that further implementation of its resolution 41/213 on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations should be carried out in a balanced way and with flexibility so as to improve the structure and composition of the Secretariat. In its resolution 43/213, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session an analytical report assessing the effect of the implementation of its resolution 41/213 on the Organization and its activities, as a whole, and the way in which it has enhanced the efficiency of its administrative and financial functioning. The Assembly reaffirmed that request in its resolution 44/200 A.

The Committee will have before it the analytical report of the Secretary-General referred to above, which should be structured along the lines indicated in paragraph 28 of the report of the Committee on its twenty-ninth session (A/44/16) and reaffirmed in General Assembly resolution 44/200 A, paragraph 16.

Documentation

Analytical report of the Secretary-General on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (A/45/)

4. Programme questions

(a) Proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

Pursuant to its terms of reference (Council resolution 2008 (IX), annex), the Committee will consider the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997.

In its resolution 43/219 on programme planning, the General Assembly reiterated the importance of the medium-term plan as the principal policy directive of the United Nations and stressed the role of the medium-term plan in contributing to the improvement of the efficiency and the effectiveness of the United Nations in the implementation of its mandated activities, and thus to the enhancement of the role of the United Nations as set out in the Charter of the United Nations.

In the same resolution the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in revising his draft introduction and preparing the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, including its structure, to take into account the views expressed by Member States on the preparation of the next medium-term plan and to act in full accordance with the pertinent Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and

the Methods of Evaluation 2/ concerning the content, formulation and presentation of the medium-term plan. The General Assembly also invited all intergovernmental bodies, when considering in 1989 the pertinent portions of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, to give due attention to the most appropriate structure for the major programme or major programmes, programmes and subprogrammes submitted for their consideration, as compared with the current structure and in the light of an analysis of the objectives, trends and general orientations derived from the mandates of the intergovernmental bodies, to be provided by the Secretary-General.

In the same resolution the General Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to provide intergovernmental bodies with relevant evaluation studies as approved by the Assembly, where available, to facilitate their consideration of pertinent portions of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, and to submit to the Assembly, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, a consolidated summary of the comments and recommendations made by Member States and the intergovernmental bodies referred to above, in particular concerning the structure of the plan, together with his proposed medium term plan for the period 1992-1997.

The attention of the Committee is drawn to General Assembly resolution 44/194, section I, concerning the role of intergovernmental bodies in the planning, programming and budgeting process.

The attention of the Committee is also drawn to the report of the Secretary-General on the application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives, which is listed for consideration under agenda item 4 (d) below.

Documentation

Proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (in fascicle form)

(b) Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989

Regulation 6.1 of the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation reads as follows: 2/

"The Secretary-General shall monitor the delivery of output scheduled in the approved programme budget through a central unit in the Secretariat. After the completion of the biennial budget period, the Secretary-General shall report to the General Assembly, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, on programme performance during that period."

In resolution 44/194, section III, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to improve the methodology for monitoring and reporting on programme performance in order to enhance the meaningful determination



of implementation rates and comparison between actual delivery of final output and commitments set out in the programme narratives of the approved programme budget, and to develop a methodology for the harmonization of programme performance and budget performance reporting.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989 (A/45/)

(c) Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993

In accordance with regulation 3.2 of the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, 2/ the Secretary-General shall submit an outline of the programme budget for the following biennium, which shall contain an indication of the following:

(a) Preliminary estimate of resources to accommodate the proposed programme of activities during the biennium;

(b) Priorities, reflecting general trends of a broad sectoral nature;

(c) Real growth, positive or negative, compared with the previous budget;

(d) Size of the contingency fund expressed as a percentage of the overall level of resources.

Regulation 3.2 goes on to state that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, acting as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly, shall consider the outline of the programme budget and submit its conclusions and recommendations to the Assembly through its Fifth Committee. By its resolution 42/211, the Assembly decided that the date for submission of the outline of the programme budget shall be 15 August of the off-budget year. The Committee will consider the report of the Secretary-General on the outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 when it resumes its thirtieth session, from 17 to 21 September 1990.

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on all aspects of priority-setting in future outlines of the proposed programme budget (A/44/272). The Committee noted that it did not have sufficient time fully to consider that very complex issue, and decided to transmit the report to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, together with its views, for further consideration.

At its second regular session of 1989, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1989/97, whereby it endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination regarding priority-setting.

At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly, in resolution 44/194, section II, requested the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to complete, at its thirtieth session, its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on all aspects of priority-setting in future outlines of the proposed programme budget (A/44/272), including the relationship between priorities and extrabudgetary resources and taking into account the pertinent observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph 85 of its report, 3/ and requested the Committee to make recommendations thereon to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General containing the outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 (A/45/)

Report of the Secretary-General on all aspects of priority setting in future outlines of the proposed programme budget (A/44/272)

(d) Evaluation

At its twenty-fourth session, the Committee adopted a timetable for evaluation, 4/ according to which it will review at its thirtieth session an in-depth evaluation of the major programme on human settlements. At its twenty-eighth session the Committee approved the general framework and approach of the progress report and recommended that the in-depth evaluation on the major programme on human settlements should focus particularly on the issues indicated in paragraph 89 of the report on its twenty-eighth session. 5/ It also requested that in the above-mentioned evaluation report, to be submitted in 1990, information on the actual materialization and expenditure of extrabudgetary resources should be included.

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee considered a progress report on the in-depth evaluation of the disarmament programme and, taking into account the importance of evaluating political programmes, the Committee recommended that a final decision on the evaluation report on the disarmament programme be postponed until its thirtieth session. In that connection, the Committee requested the Secretary-General to present to it at its thirtieth session a revised proposal on the methodology and scheduling of the evaluation of the disarmament programme, including methodological considerations that could be applied in the evaluation of other political programmes, taking into account the views expressed by the Committee at its twenty-ninth session.

In accordance with the approved schedule of progress reports, the Committee will review at its thirtieth session a progress report on the in-depth evaluation of the science and technology programme.

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee noted that the report on the development issues and policies programme of the Economic Commission for Africa was a review of the setting of priorities and requested that an in-depth evaluation of that programme be carried out and submitted to it at its thirty-first session. The

Committee also requested the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the subject to it at its thirtieth session.

In accordance with regulation 7.4 of the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and Methods of Evaluation, 2/ the Committee will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives. In this regard, the attention of the Committee is drawn to the relevant sections of General Assembly resolutions 37/234, 38/227 A and B, 42/215, 43/219 and 44/194.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the major programme on human settlements (E/AC.51/1990/2)

Report of the Secretary-General on the methodology and scheduling of the in-depth evaluation of the disarmament programme (E/AC.51/1990/3)

Progress report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the science and technology programme (E/AC.51/1990/4)

Progress report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the programme on development issues and policies of the Economic Commission for Africa (E/AC.51/1990/5)

Report of the Secretary-General on the application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives (A/45/)

5. Co-ordination questions

(a) Cross-organizational programme analysis

At its twenty-eighth session, the Committee agreed that industrial development should be the topic of the cross-organizational programme analysis for consideration in 1990 and requested that a report on the proposed scope and general approach of the programme analysis be submitted to it for review in 1989. At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee, having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the scope and general approach of the cross-organizational programme analysis on the activities of the United Nations system related to industrial development (E/AC.51/1989/9), stressed the importance of carrying out a cross-organizational programme analysis on this topic. It reiterated that the analysis should reflect the central co-ordinating role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in this area and the need to take into account the relevant activities of the other organizations of the United Nations system in industrial development. The Committee recommended, inter alia, that this programme analysis should serve a transitional function by providing an analytical review of the status of co-operation as well as forward-looking practical recommendations to strengthen it, and should take into account the views of the Industrial Development Board. The Committee agreed that the analysis should give

particular attention to the needs of less developed countries and should review both progress on the implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the role of women in industrialization. Finally, the Committee suggested that the proposed cross-organizational programme analysis should take into account important developments since 1980 in all organizations of the United Nations system with activities in industrial development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the cross-organizational programme analysis on the activities of the United Nations system related to industrial development (E/AC.51/1990/6)

(b) Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and preparations for the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) the Committee will have before it the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for 1989. In its resolution 44/194, section V, the General Assembly approved the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination relating to co-ordination contained in chapter IV of the report on its twenty-ninth session (A/44/16), and requested the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to modify substantially the format and content of its annual overview report in accordance with the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination. In the same resolution, the Assembly invited the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to improve their consideration of the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, in accordance with their respective mandates, and requested the Secretary-General to present the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its thirtieth session and the Economic and Social Council and subsequently to make it available to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, together with the relevant conclusions and recommendations of those bodies on that report in accordance with existing practice.

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee reiterated the need for the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to result in action-oriented recommendations amenable to follow-up by the secretariats and governing bodies of the organizations of the system. It emphasized the need for advance preparation for the Joint Meetings and agreed that participation, particularly on the part of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, should be at an appropriate level. To that end, in its resolution 44/194, section V, the General Assembly invited the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, at their Joint Meetings in 1990, to discuss, in a thorough manner, all measures for improving the efficacy of the Joint Meetings, including their structure and level of participation. In paragraph 365 of its report (A/44/16), the Committee recommended that natural disaster reduction and improvement of co-ordination in the United Nations system should be the topics considered in the twenty-fifth series of

Joint Meetings of the two Committees, in 1990, and that detailed consideration should be given to the question of natural disaster reduction.

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/141, paragraph 3 (c), the United Nations system action plan on drug abuse control is submitted to the Committee for discussion.

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/64, the Committee will have before it the report of the Chairmen of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the twenty-fourth series of Joint Meetings of the two Committees.

Documentation

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for 1989 (E/1990/18)

United Nations system action plan on drug abuse control (E/1990/39)

Report of the Chairmen of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the twenty-fourth series of Joint Meetings of the two Committees (E/1990/4)

(c) Strengthening of co-ordination in the United Nations system

In accordance with its terms of reference, the Committee may wish to consider the question of strengthening co-ordination in the United Nations system in the context of the report of the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination.

6. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

At its twenty-fourth session, the Committee decided that reports of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) would, in future, be reviewed first by the Committee as to programming aspects and that, to that end, the Committee should be authorized to examine them even without the written comments of the Secretary-General if they were not available; the comments of the Secretary-General could be made orally to the Committee. That decision was approved by the General Assembly in resolution 39/238. The Committee further decided that at its organizational meeting each year, it would select the JIU reports to be considered at its regular session of that year from a list of titles to be made available by the Secretariat, including the titles of reports projected for the following two years.

In its resolution 44/184, the General Assembly requested the Joint Inspection Unit, in the development of its work programme, to give even greater attention to management, budgetary and administrative issues relevant to the agenda of the governing bodies of its participating organizations and to their main and common concerns. In the same resolution, the Assembly invited the Joint Inspection Unit to continue to make every possible effort to issue its reports well in advance of meetings of the governing bodies of its participating organizations, in particular

the General Assembly, and of the relevant subsidiary bodies, to ensure that the comments of the Secretary-General and those of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, where pertinent, were issued in accordance with existing regulations for the timely receipt of documentation.

7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Committee

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII), the Committee will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its thirty-first session, with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each agenda item and the legislative authority for their preparation, in order to enable the Committee to consider those documents from the point of view of their contribution to the work of the Committee, their urgency and their relevance in the light of the current situation.

In its resolution 1979/41, the Council decided that the provisional agenda for its subsidiary bodies, together with the list of requested documentation, should be submitted to it for review, in order, inter alia, to establish greater consistency between the documentation of those bodies and the overall documentation requested by the Council and other subsidiary bodies and greater consistency between the requests for documentation and the medium-term plan and the programme budget.

The Council, in resolution 1989/114 on further measures for the implementation of its resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Economic and Social Council, urged its subsidiary bodies to implement fully Council resolution 1979/41 in submitting to the Council, for consideration, their provisional agenda together with the list of requested documentation, with a view to ensuring greater consistency in requests for documentation and improving reporting procedures. In this connection, it will be recalled that the Council has urged all its subsidiary bodies to exercise the utmost restraint in making requests of the Secretary-General for new reports and studies and to implement fully the decisions of the Council and the General Assembly with respect to the control and limitation of documentation (see Council resolutions 1981/83 and 1982/50).

In decision 1983/163, the Council requested the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions were adopted, any request for documentation that exceeded the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources and to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation was likely to occur and/or where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that dealt with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-first session of the Committee

8. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirtieth session

The report of the Committee on its thirtieth session will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1990 and to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

Attention is drawn to Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/114, in which the Council requested its subsidiary bodies to highlight policy recommendations and decisions resulting from their deliberations for consideration and appropriate action by the Council.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49).

2/ General Assembly resolution 37/234, annex; see also the amendments endorsed by the Assembly (resolution 42/215) on the recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination contained in Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/42/16), part two, para. 74, and the text on the contingency fund adopted by the Assembly in resolution 42/211.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/44/7 and Corr.1 and 2).

4/ Ibid., Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/39/38), para. 364.

5/ Ibid., Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/43/16).





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Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Provisional agenda

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2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.
4. Programme questions:
 - (a) Proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997;
 - (b) Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989;
 - (c) Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993;
 - (d) Evaluation;
 - (e) Questions related to the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.
5. Co-ordination questions:
 - (a) Cross-organizational programme analysis;
 - (b) Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and preparations for the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;
 - (c) Strengthening co-ordination in the United Nations system.

6. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit.
7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Committee.
8. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirtieth session.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee elected a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. At its twenty-fourth session, the Committee decided that, henceforth, the post of Chairman, as well as the other posts on the bureau, should rotate annually among the regional groups. At its twenty-fifth session, the Committee reaffirmed its decision and adopted the following pattern of rotation for the post of Chairman: (a) Group of African States; (b) Group of Eastern European States; (c) Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; (d) Group of Western European and other States; and (e) Group of Asian States. The Committee decided that rotation according to the above pattern had begun in 1984 with the Group of African States. However, it agreed, on an exceptional basis, to select the Chairman of the Committee in 1986 from the Group of Western European and other States, in 1987 from the Group of Asian States and in 1988 from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States. In 1989, the Committee returned to the agreed pattern of rotation and elected the Chairman of the twenty-ninth session from the Group of African States. At its thirtieth session, the Committee may wish to select the Chairman of the Committee from the Group of Eastern European States, in accordance with the agreed pattern of rotation for the post of Chairman. The Committee also agreed that each year the post of Rapporteur should be occupied by a member of the regional group that occupied the post of Chairman the previous year.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Pursuant to paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 and paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 34/50, the Committee submitted to the Council and the Assembly for their review the provisional agenda for its thirtieth session, together with the list of documentation requested. The present provisional agenda and list of documentation also reflect decisions taken by the Council and the Assembly since the last session of the Committee.

3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

In its resolution 41/213, the General Assembly decided that the recommendations as agreed upon and as contained in the report of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, 1/ should be implemented by the Secretary-General and the relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations in the light of the findings of the Fifth Committee and as specified in that resolution. In resolution 43/213, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to report to the Assembly on the

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implementation of Assembly resolution 41/213 in accordance with recommendation 71 of the Group, taking into account the views expressed in the Fifth Committee. According to recommendation 71, the Secretary-General and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination were to report to the Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of all the recommendations contained in the report of the Group and approved by the Assembly.

In its resolutions 43/213 and 44/200 A, the General Assembly reiterated that further implementation of its resolution 41/213 on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations should be carried out in a balanced way and with flexibility so as to improve the structure and composition of the Secretariat. In its resolution 43/213, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session an analytical report assessing the effect of the implementation of its resolution 41/213 on the Organization and its activities, as a whole, and the way in which it has enhanced the efficiency of its administrative and financial functioning. The Assembly reaffirmed that request in its resolution 44/200 A.

The Committee will have before it the analytical report of the Secretary-General referred to above, which should be structured along the lines indicated in paragraph 28 of the report of the Committee on its twenty-ninth session (A/44/16) and reaffirmed in General Assembly resolution 44/200 A, paragraph 16.

Documentation

Analytical report of the Secretary-General on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (A/45/226)

4. Programme questions

(a) Proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

Pursuant to its terms of reference (Council resolution 2008 (LX), annex), the Committee will consider the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997.

In its resolution 43/219 on programme planning, the General Assembly reiterated the importance of the medium-term plan as the principal policy directive of the United Nations and stressed the role of the medium-term plan in contributing to the improvement of the efficiency and the effectiveness of the United Nations in the implementation of its mandated activities, and thus to the enhancement of the role of the United Nations as set out in the Charter of the United Nations.

In the same resolution the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in revising his draft introduction and preparing the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, including its structure, to take into account the views expressed by Member States on the preparation of the next medium-term plan and to act in full accordance with the pertinent Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation 2/ concerning the content, formulation and presentation

of the medium-term plan. The General Assembly also invited all intergovernmental bodies, when considering in 1989 the pertinent portions of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, to give due attention to the most appropriate structure for the major programme or major programmes, programmes and subprogrammes submitted for their consideration, as compared with the current structure and in the light of an analysis of the objectives, trends and general orientations derived from the mandates of the intergovernmental bodies, to be provided by the Secretary-General.

In the same resolution the General Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to provide intergovernmental bodies with relevant evaluation studies as approved by the Assembly, where available, to facilitate their consideration of pertinent portions of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, and to submit to the Assembly, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, a consolidated summary of the comments and recommendations made by Member States and the intergovernmental bodies referred to above, in particular concerning the structure of the plan, together with his proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997.

The attention of the Committee is drawn to General Assembly resolution 44/194, section I, concerning the role of intergovernmental bodies in the planning, programming and budgeting process.

The attention of the Committee is also drawn to the report of the Secretary-General on the application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives, which is listed for consideration under agenda item 4 (d) below.

Documentation

Proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (A/45/6 (in fascicle form))

(b) Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989

Regulation 6.1 of the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation reads as follows: 2/

"The Secretary-General shall monitor the delivery of output scheduled in the approved programme budget through a central unit in the Secretariat. After the completion of the biennial budget period, the Secretary-General shall report to the General Assembly, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, on programme performance during that period."

In resolution 44/194, section III, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to improve the methodology for monitoring and reporting on programme performance in order to enhance the meaningful determination of implementation rates and comparison between actual delivery of final output and

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commitments set out in the programme narratives of the approved programme budget, and to develop a methodology for the harmonization of programme performance and budget performance reporting.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989 (A/45/218 and Add.1)

(c) Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993

In accordance with regulation 3.2 of the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, 2/ the Secretary-General shall submit an outline of the programme budget for the following biennium, which shall contain an indication of the following:

- (a) Preliminary estimate of resources to accommodate the proposed programme of activities during the biennium;
- (b) Priorities, reflecting general trends of a broad sectoral nature;
- (c) Real growth, positive or negative, compared with the previous budget;
- (d) Size of the contingency fund expressed as a percentage of the overall level of resources.

Regulation 3.2 goes on to state that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, acting as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly, shall consider the outline of the programme budget and submit its conclusions and recommendations to the Assembly through its Fifth Committee. By its resolution 42/211, the Assembly decided that the date for submission of the outline of the programme budget shall be 15 August of the off-budget year. The Committee will consider the report of the Secretary-General on the outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 when it resumes its thirtieth session, from 17 to 21 September 1990.

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on all aspects of priority-setting in future outlines of the proposed programme budget (A/44/272). The Committee noted that it did not have sufficient time fully to consider that very complex issue, and decided to transmit the report to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, together with its views, for further consideration.

At its second regular session of 1989, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1989/97, whereby it endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination regarding priority-setting.

At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly, in resolution 44/194, section II, requested the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to complete, at its thirtieth session, its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on all aspects of priority-setting in future outlines of the proposed programme budget (A/44/272), including the relationship between priorities and extrabudgetary resources and taking into account the pertinent observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph 85 of its report, 3/ and requested the Committee to make recommendations thereon to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General containing the outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 (A/45/)

Report of the Secretary-General on all aspects of priority-setting in future outlines of the proposed programme budget (A/44/272)

(d) Evaluation

At its twenty-fourth session, the Committee adopted a timetable for evaluation, 4/ according to which it will review at its thirtieth session an in-depth evaluation of the major programme on human settlements. At its twenty-eighth session the Committee approved the general framework and approach of the progress report and recommended that the in-depth evaluation on the major programme on human settlements should focus particularly on the issues indicated in paragraph 89 of the report on its twenty-eighth session. 5/ It also requested that in the above-mentioned evaluation report, to be submitted in 1990, information on the actual materialization and expenditure of extrabudgetary resources should be included.

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee considered a progress report on the in-depth evaluation of the disarmament programme and, taking into account the importance of evaluating political programmes, the Committee recommended that a final decision on the evaluation report on the disarmament programme be postponed until its thirtieth session. In that connection, the Committee requested the Secretary-General to present to it at its thirtieth session a revised proposal on the methodology and scheduling of the evaluation of the disarmament programme, including methodological considerations that could be applied in the evaluation of other political programmes, taking into account the views expressed by the Committee at its twenty-ninth session.

In accordance with the approved schedule of progress reports, the Committee will review at its thirtieth session a progress report on the in-depth evaluation of the science and technology programme.

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee noted that the report on the development issues and policies programme of the Economic Commission for Africa was a review of the setting of priorities and requested that an in-depth evaluation of that programme be carried out and submitted to it at its thirty-first session. The

Committee also requested the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the subject to it at its thirtieth session.

In accordance with regulation 7.4 of the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and Methods of Evaluation, 2/ the Committee will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives. In this regard, the attention of the Committee is drawn to the relevant sections of General Assembly resolutions 37/234, 38/227 A and B, 42/215, 43/219 and 44/194.

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee recommended that the in-depth evaluation to be scheduled for its consideration in 1993 would be for the programme on international protection of and assistance to refugees. In section IV of its resolution 44/194, the General Assembly approved that recommendation. The Committee will therefore have before it a note by the Secretary-General on the evaluation of the programme on international protection of and assistance to refugees.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the major programme on human settlements (E/AC.51/1990/2)

Report of the Secretary-General on the methodology and scheduling of the in-depth evaluation of the disarmament programme (E/AC.51/1990/3)

Progress report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the science and technology programme (E/AC.51/1990/4)

Progress report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the programme on development issues and policies of the Economic Commission for Africa (E/AC.51/1990/5)

Report of the Secretary-General on the application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives (A/45/204)

Note by the Secretary-General on the evaluation of the programme on international protection of and assistance to refugees (E/AC.51/1990/7).

(e) Questions related to the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991

The General Assembly, in section II of its resolution 44/201 B, requested the Secretary-General to review the functions and administrative support of the departments having mandates relating to global social development issues, bearing in mind the need for an integrated approach to development and to submit proposals to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session for the strengthening of the United Nations Office at Vienna.

In section V of the same resolution, the General Assembly accepted the estimate and proposal of the Secretary-General for section 3 C (Namibia) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, as endorsed by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, noted that the Secretary-General would submit revised estimates for that section and requested him to do so no later than the forty-fifth session of the Assembly.

It also requested the Secretary-General to take full account of the priority attached by the Assembly to activities against apartheid and of the views expressed by Member States at the forty-fourth session, to ensure optimum utilization of resources within section 3, including the possibility of redeployment of staff resources, when submitting revised estimates and priorities for section 3 to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

Furthermore, in section VIII of that resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to review the translation and interpretation services for all official languages in the Economic Commission for Africa, including the question of the retention of trained personnel and the possibility of restoration of the Training Centre, and to report on the results of that review to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the functions and administrative support of the departments having mandates relating to global social development issues (A/45/)

Report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates for section III of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 (A/45/)

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the translation and interpretation services for all official languages in the Economic Commission for Africa (A/45/)

5. Co-ordination questions

(a) Cross-organizational programme analysis

At its twenty-eighth session, the Committee agreed that industrial development should be the topic of the cross-organizational programme analysis for consideration in 1990 and requested that a report on the proposed scope and general approach of the programme analysis be submitted to it for review in 1989. At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee, having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the scope and general approach of the cross-organizational programme analysis on the activities of the United Nations system related to industrial development (E/AC.51/1989/9), stressed the importance of carrying out a cross-organizational programme analysis on this topic. It reiterated that the analysis should reflect the central co-ordinating role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in this area and the need to take into

account the relevant activities of the other organizations of the United Nations system in industrial development. The Committee recommended, inter alia, that this programme analysis should serve a transitional function by providing an analytical review of the status of co-operation as well as forward-looking practical recommendations to strengthen it, and should take into account the views of the Industrial Development Board. The Committee agreed that the analysis should give particular attention to the needs of less developed countries and should review both progress on the implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the role of women in industrialization. Finally, the Committee suggested that the proposed cross-organizational programme analysis should take into account important developments since 1980 in all organizations of the United Nations system with activities in industrial development.

At its twenty-eighth session, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General on follow-up to the cross-organizational programme analysis on economic and social research and policy analysis in the United Nations system (E/1988/47) and agreed that the report contained much useful information, but was, in general, vague regarding action that had been taken, and was therefore considered an interim report. It requested a more comprehensive report that should include, inter alia, an assessment of the measures implemented, and should reflect all relevant developments in this field, for review at its thirtieth session. It requested, in particular, that the new report should provide more information on relationships between secretariat units of organizations of the United Nations system that are engaged in economic and social research and policy analysis.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the cross-organizational programme analysis on the activities of the United Nations system related to industrial development (E/AC.51/1990/6)

Report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to the cross-organizational programme analysis of the activities of the United Nations system on economic and social research and policy analysis (E/AC.51/1990/8)

- (b) Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and preparations for the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) the Committee will have before it the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for 1989. In its resolution 44/194, section V, the General Assembly approved the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination relating to co-ordination contained in chapter IV of the report on its twenty-ninth session (A/44/16), and requested the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to modify substantially the format and content of its annual overview report in accordance with the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination. In the same resolution, the Assembly invited the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to improve their consideration of the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, in accordance

with their respective mandates, and requested the Secretary-General to present the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its thirtieth session and the Economic and Social Council and subsequently to make it available to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, together with the relevant conclusions and recommendations of those bodies on that report in accordance with existing practice.

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee reiterated the need for the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to result in action-oriented recommendations amenable to follow-up by the secretariats and governing bodies of the organizations of the system. It emphasized the need for advance preparation for the Joint Meetings and agreed that participation, particularly on the part of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, should be at an appropriate level. To that end, in its resolution 44/194, section V, the General Assembly invited the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, at their Joint Meetings in 1990, to discuss, in a thorough manner, all measures for improving the efficacy of the Joint Meetings, including their structure and level of participation. In paragraph 365 of its report (A/44/16), the Committee recommended that natural disaster reduction and improvement of co-ordination in the United Nations system should be the topics considered in the twenty-fifth series of Joint Meetings of the two Committees, in 1990, and that detailed consideration should be given to the question of natural disaster reduction.

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/141, paragraph 3 (c), the United Nations system action plan on drug abuse control is submitted to the Committee for discussion.

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/64, the Committee will have before it the report of the Chairmen of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the twenty-fourth series of Joint Meetings of the two Committees.

Documentation

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for 1989 (E/1990/18)

United Nations system action plan on drug abuse control (E/1990/39)

Report of the Chairmen of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the twenty-fourth series of Joint Meetings of the two Committees (E/1990/4)

(c) Strengthening of co-ordination in the United Nations system

In accordance with its terms of reference, the Committee may wish to consider the question of strengthening co-ordination in the United Nations system in the context of the report of the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination.

6. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

At its twenty-fourth session, the Committee decided that reports of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) would, in future, be reviewed first by the Committee as to programming aspects and that, to that end, the Committee should be authorized to examine them even without the written comments of the Secretary-General if they were not available; the comments of the Secretary-General could be made orally to the Committee. That decision was approved by the General Assembly in resolution 39/238. The Committee further decided that at its organizational meeting each year, it would select the JIU reports to be considered at its regular session of that year from a list of titles to be made available by the Secretariat, including the titles of reports projected for the following two years.

In its resolution 44/184, the General Assembly requested the Joint Inspection Unit, in the development of its work programme, to give even greater attention to management, budgetary and administrative issues relevant to the agenda of the governing bodies of its participating organizations and to their main and common concerns. In the same resolution, the Assembly invited the Joint Inspection Unit to continue to make every possible effort to issue its reports well in advance of meetings of the governing bodies of its participating organizations, in particular the General Assembly, and of the relevant subsidiary bodies, to ensure that the comments of the Secretary-General and those of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, where pertinent, were issued in accordance with existing regulations for the timely receipt of documentation.

7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Committee

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII), the Committee will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its thirty-first session, with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each agenda item and the legislative authority for their preparation, in order to enable the Committee to consider those documents from the point of view of their contribution to the work of the Committee, their urgency and their relevance in the light of the current situation.

In its resolution 1979/41, the Council decided that the provisional agenda for its subsidiary bodies, together with the list of requested documentation, should be submitted to it for review, in order, *inter alia*, to establish greater consistency between the documentation of those bodies and the overall documentation requested by the Council and other subsidiary bodies and greater consistency between the requests for documentation and the medium-term plan and the programme budget.

The Council, in resolution 1989/114 on further measures for the implementation of its resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Economic and Social Council, urged its subsidiary bodies to implement fully Council resolution 1979/41 in submitting to the Council, for consideration, their provisional agenda together with the list of requested documentation, with a view to ensuring greater consistency in requests for documentation and improving reporting procedures. In this connection, it will be recalled that the Council has urged all its subsidiary bodies to exercise the utmost restraint in making requests of the Secretary-General

for new reports and studies and to implement fully the decisions of the Council and the General Assembly with respect to the control and limitation of documentation (see Council resolutions 1981/83 and 1982/50).

In decision 1983/163, the Council requested the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions were adopted, any request for documentation that exceeded the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources and to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation was likely to occur and/or where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that dealt with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-first session of the Committee

8. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirtieth session

The report of the Committee on its thirtieth session will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1990 and to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

Attention is drawn to Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/114, in which the Council requested its subsidiary bodies to highlight policy recommendations and decisions resulting from their deliberations for consideration and appropriate action by the Council.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49).

2/ General Assembly resolution 37/234, annex; see also the amendments endorsed by the Assembly (resolution 42/215) on the recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination contained in Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/42/16), part two, para. 74, and the text on the contingency fund adopted by the Assembly in resolution 42/211.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/44/7 and Corr.1 and 2).

4/ Ibid., Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/39/38), para. 364.

5/ Ibid., Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/43/16).







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PROGRAMME QUESTIONS: EVALUATION

In-depth evaluation of the major programme on human settlements

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

The present report has been prepared in accordance with the decision taken by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-eighth session on the progress report (E/AC.51/1988/4) and follows the structure recommended by the Committee. Section I discusses co-ordination in planning and implementation. Section II provides information on various issues relating to programme planning. Section III on programme results presents overall assessments of the global and three regional programmes on human settlements, based on the views of national focal points and non-governmental organizations and views expressed at intergovernmental meetings. The section also discusses special issues selected by the Committee. Section IV concerns the dissemination of information. Conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation are given in paragraphs 106 to 117. Annex I presents a cross-reference of the United Nations programme activities in the area of human settlements. Summaries of replies from national focal points and non-governmental organizations to questionnaires and interviews are given in annexes II and III.

* E/AC.51/1990/1.

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INTRODUCTION

A. General

1. At its twenty-eighth session, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) approved the general framework and approach of the progress report on the in-depth evaluation of the major programme on human settlements (E/AC.51/1988/4). The Committee recommended that the in-depth evaluation should focus particularly on the issues indicated below and contained in the progress report:

- (a) Issues relating to co-ordination (paras. 40-46);
- (b) Issues relevant to the planning phase (paras. 54 (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h));
- (c) Issues relevant to the implementation phase (para. 55 (f));
- (d) Issues relating to programme results (paras. 56 (b), (c), (d) and (e));
- (e) Dissemination of information (para. 59). 1/

The Committee also requested that, in the evaluation report to be submitted in 1990, information on the actual materialization and expenditure of extrabudgetary resources be included. 2/

2. The present report has been prepared in accordance with the above-mentioned decisions of the Committee. However, some modifications were necessary. First, the Committee recommended that the evaluation should address the co-ordination issues indicated in paragraphs 40 to 46 of the progress report. However, some of those paragraphs were simply descriptions of co-ordination matters and did not include proposals on any issues for evaluation. Second, the section on "issues to be addressed" of the progress report (E/AC.51/1988/4, paras. 54-60) listed co-ordination issues under the headings of planning and implementation phases since co-ordination was required at every stage of the programme cycle. Therefore, the co-ordination issues listed under those two phases, which were selected by CPC, are included in the section on co-ordination of the present report. The Committee selected only one from a number of issues relevant to programme implementation that were proposed in the progress report, i.e., paragraph 55 (f) concerning co-ordination in implementation. This issue is discussed in the section on co-ordination. Consequently, the structure of the present report will be as follows: section I discusses co-ordination issues, section II deals with issues relevant to planning phase and section III, with issues relating to programme results. Dissemination of information is included in section IV. A summary of main findings and recommendations are presented in section V.

3. As approved by the Committee, 3/ evaluation data were collected through documentation review, interviews and questionnaires.

B. Methods of data collection

4. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (UNCHS) and the units concerned with human settlements of the regional commissions were requested to complete a set of detailed questionnaires. Those regional units are: the Social Development, Human Settlements and Environment Division of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA); the Environment and Human Settlements Division of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE); the Joint ECLAC/UNCHS (Habitat) Unit of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) which was incorporated in the new Environment and Human Settlements Division as of January 1990; the Social Development, Population and Human Settlements Division of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA); and the ESCAP/UNCHS (Habitat) Joint Unit of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). Information provided in the replies of the units concerned with human settlements was clarified or supplemented by documentation review and interviews with staff members of the Secretariat and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) who were familiar with the efforts of the United Nations in the field of human settlements.

5. Questionnaires were also sent to national focal points of the programmes of UNCHS, ECA and ECE and contact persons for the follow-up of ESCAP resolution 268 (XLIV) concerning shelter strategies during the period from mid-October to early November 1989. It should be noted that a number of ministries normally deal with activities under this programme. Accordingly, the view of the focal point in one ministry may not fully represent the views and priorities of other ministries. ECLAC and ESCWA did not have national focal points for their programmes on human settlements. As approved by CPC at its twenty-ninth session, 4/ the membership of the Committee was used as a geographically diverse sample of Member States for the questionnaire on the work of UNCHS. However, questionnaires were sent to all national focal points of ECA and ECE and contact persons for ESCAP because using the membership of CPC as a sample for those regional commissions would reduce the sample size to such an extent that data collected could not be valid. As of 1 March 1990, responses had been received from the national focal points or contact persons of the following countries:

UNCHS: Bahamas, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Canada, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Pakistan, Sweden, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America (number of questionnaires sent: 34, response rate: 41.2 per cent)

ECA: Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Lesotho, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe (number of questionnaires sent: 39, response rate: 28.2 per cent)

ECE: Austria, Canada, Cyprus, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yugoslavia (number of questionnaires sent: 31, response rate: 38.7 per cent)

ESCAP: Afghanistan, Australia, Brunei Darussalam, China, Fiji, Guam, Hong Kong, Malaysia, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Philippines and Tonga (number of questionnaires sent: 30, response rate: 40.0 per cent)

6. The present report incorporates the views of the above-mentioned national focal points as preliminary assessments of the work of the corresponding United Nations organizational entities. The responses as of 1 March 1990 are summarized in annex II. In order to raise the response rate, requests for assistance were sent to all the members of CPC in December 1989. The first reminders were dispatched in early January 1990 and the second reminders in late February 1990 to all the non-respondents.

7. A different set of questionnaires was sent to 156 members of the Habitat International Coalition, a non-governmental organization concerned with human settlements. Eighty-two members of the organization responded, of which 81 returned completed questionnaires; the response rate was thus 51.9 per cent. Not all of the Coalition members were familiar with the activities of the United Nations in this field. The same questionnaires were sent to 812 non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, but that do not belong to the Habitat International Coalition. The purpose was to solicit the views of non-governmental organizations that had not traditionally been concerned with human settlements issues. A total of 166 non-governmental organizations responded, 113 indicating that they were not involved in human settlements activities and 53 confirming their involvement. About half of those non-governmental organizations had been receiving United Nations publications on human settlements. The analysis of the questionnaires received from the non-governmental organizations was based on those 53 non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and 81 members of the Habitat International Coalition. A summary of responses to the surveys of non-governmental organizations is given in annex III.

8. A series of structured interviews were carried out with participants of a conference organized by the Department of Public Information from 13 to 15 September 1989. The conference, "Environment and Development: Only One Earth", attracted more than a thousand non-governmental organizations from many parts of the world. A sample of 31 non-governmental organizations involved in human settlements activities was drawn from the conference participants.

9. In order to gather information on the news coverage of the United Nations activities in the field of human settlements, the United Nations information centres were requested to forward to the Central Evaluation Unit relevant newspaper clippings collected during the six-month period from July to December 1989.

I. CO-ORDINATION

A. Co-ordination in planning

1. Mechanisms and procedures for co-ordination in planning

10. The Committee recommended that the evaluation should address "the strengthening of mechanisms that provide for forward-looking co-ordination. This would require emphasis on pre-planning and pre-consultations with other agencies and with developing countries in the formulation of programmes" (E/AC.51/1988/4,

para. 41 (a)). Methods of data collection were questionnaires sent to the units concerned with human settlements and documentation review.

11. The current co-ordination arrangements for planning between UNCHS (Habitat) and the regional units concerned with human settlements are: (a) substantive work programming of the joint units established by the Centre and the regional commissions; (b) exchange of work programmes between the Centre and the regional units and (c) the Centre's participation in sessions of the regional intergovernmental bodies concerned with human settlements. In addition, information gained by participating in field work and evaluation and assessment missions is used for planning by the Centre. Consultations are also held with other relevant units of the Secretariat.

12. The biennial work programmes on human settlements of the regional commissions are made available to the Commission on Human Settlements for its information; this assists the Commission in recommending ways in which overall human settlements goals can best be achieved. The Centre reviews the contents of regional programmes and identifies areas of joint interest. Consultations are held with the United Nations Statistical Office on human settlements data and the establishment of a human settlements statistical data base. Co-ordinated planning with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has resulted in the funding and preparation of a number of publications on environmental issues in human settlements, such as Environmental Guidelines for Settlements Planning and Management. The Centre considers that these arrangements have been useful in increasing co-ordination.

13. With the exception of the ESCAP/UNCHS (Habitat) Joint Unit, which regards the co-ordination between ESCAP and UNCHS (Habitat) as excellent, replies of all other regional units state that better co-ordination arrangements are necessary. Difficulties hindering effective co-ordination, as pointed out by some of those units, are the formulation of human settlements programmes without joint consultations, different interests and different legislative bodies.

14. With respect to system-wide co-ordination, the Centre considers that such comprehensive co-ordination of activities, especially at the planning stage, has not proved possible. In this connection, the Commission on Human Settlements, in its resolutions 8/13, 9/15 and 10/7, has expressed its conviction that only a full and equal membership in the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination would enable UNCHS (Habitat) to discharge fully its co-ordinating mandate on issues concerning human settlements. In 1984 CPC, after examining the cross-organizational programme analysis on human settlements (E/AC.51/1984/5 and Corr.1-2), also noted that UNCHS (Habitat), although participating in the subsidiary machinery of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, was not a member of that Committee in its own right and had not been able to support adequately the central co-ordination role of the Commission on Human Settlements. 5/ A brief history of the discussion of this issue follows.

15. In its resolution 35/77 C of 5 December 1980, the General Assembly invited the Secretary-General to arrange, in consultation with the members of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, for UNCHS (Habitat) to participate in all aspects of the work of that Committee and its subsidiary machinery. In

response to that resolution and other resolutions of the Assembly (resolutions 37/223 C of 20 December 1982, 38/167 B of 19 December 1983 and 39/170 of 17 December 1984), the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly reports on the efforts made in this regard, including the information on decision 1983/18 of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination in which the Committee invited the Executive Director of the Centre to participate in its meetings when questions in which the Centre had a direct interest were under consideration, and also invited the Centre to participate in meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Committee. In paragraph 11 of the most recent report on the question (A/40/689), the Secretary-General described a number of channels used for the co-ordination of human settlements programmes carried out by the United Nations system. Those channels included bilateral consultations with agencies concerned, ad hoc meetings held in conjunction with the sessions of the Commission on Human Settlements and with the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and its subsidiary machinery. The Secretary-General also stated that he would continue to keep under review ways by which co-ordination of human settlements programmes through those various channels could be made more effective. Having considered the report, the General Assembly, in its resolution 40/202 C of 17 December 1985, requested the Secretary-General to ensure effective participation of UNCHS (Habitat) in the work of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and its subsidiary machinery relevant to its mandate and to keep the matter under review for consideration by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1987 on the implementation of the resolution. It is noted that this resolution does not recommend full membership by UNCHS (Habitat) in the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination. The Commission on Human Settlements requested the Executive Director of the Centre to transmit Commission resolution 10/7 6/ concerning UNCHS (Habitat) membership in the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and appropriate arrangements within the context of that Committee to the Economic and Social Council at the same session. The Council did not take any decision on this question.

16. The preceding paragraphs indicate that there are some problems with regard to co-ordination arrangements in the area of human settlements. In order to achieve better arrangements for co-ordination, co-ordination mechanisms and procedures of other programmes were surveyed. Existing channels for co-ordination in the United Nations system have been utilized effectively by a number of organizational entities that do not have full membership status in the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, as for example, the United Nations Statistical Office and the Branch for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. The subsidiary machinery of the Administrative Committee for Co-ordination such as its Sub-Committee on Statistical Activities, and its ad hoc inter-agency meetings on women have been successfully used by these two secretariat units in carrying out their co-ordination functions. The Statistical Office works with the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination Sub-Committee on Statistical Activities as the principal overall forum for inter-agency co-ordination in statistics. However, there is no Administrative Committee on Co-ordination subsidiary arrangements for human settlements co-ordination similar to the Sub-Committee on Statistical Activities. UNCHS (Habitat) states that it is using its best efforts to pursue its co-ordination objective within the subsidiary machinery of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and that any problems that still exist in this area are not due to a want of trying on its part.

2. Feasibility of thematic planning and joint planning

17. CPC recommended that the evaluation should address "the feasibility of joint planning and of formulating subprogrammes in a more uniform way or introducing thematic planning by the secretariat units concerned in order to avoid duplication of work and to ensure effective co-ordination and concentration of efforts in priority areas at the major programme level" (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 54 (f)). Information was collected by means of questionnaires sent to the units concerned with human settlements.

18. Thematic planning: The Centre states that it is committed to the concept of thematic planning, but efforts to date have not been very fruitful. For example, attempts to interest other organizations in such themes as training and shelter have met with limited success. In the Centre's experience, the most effective results have been obtained by consultation of specific topics on an agency-by-agency basis. The human settlements units of ECA, ECE and ECLAC consider that it is possible to undertake thematic planning; however, stronger co-ordination must exist as a prerequisite. The ESCAP unit states that there is no need to change the current planning and co-ordination approach, and therefore, no need to introduce thematic planning. The ESCWA unit is against thematic planning because the specific characteristics of the issues faced by each unit determine the objectives, strategies and approaches of each programme. In its view, thematic planning runs the risks of imposing a false homogeneity while leaving out aspects that are unique to each situation. The views of the units concerned with human settlements suggest that thematic planning in the area of human settlements might not be feasible at present, but that joint planning exercises in specific sub-fields could be attempted and the process monitored as it unfolds towards the ultimate end of thematic planning, which could be an instrument for achieving better co-ordination.

19. Joint planning: At present, the United Nations human settlements programmes are planned separately by each unit, although the programmes of ESCAP and ECLAC are planned in co-ordination with UNCHS (Habitat). Joint planning of human settlements activities may be possible in the sub-fields in which all the units concerned with human settlements have an interest. Annex I gives the cross-references of programme activities in the area of human settlements for the biennium 1988-1989. UNCHS (Habitat) and all regional units are involved in the following three sub-fields: (a) settlement policies and strategies, (b) settlement-planning and (c) institutions and management. These three sub-fields could be selected as areas where joint programming of activities may be attempted in such a way as to allow each unit to contribute to the overall objectives and to learn from one other.

3. The role of joint units in planning

20. With regard to the evaluation, CPC recommended that "it might be interesting to study whether such arrangements (establishment of joint units) will strengthen or have already strengthened co-ordination between UNCHS and those regional secretariats with respect to programme formulation" (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 46). Information was collected through questionnaires sent to the units concerned with human settlements.

21. The Centre has established joint units with ECLAC and ESCAP. In addition, during the period under review (1986-1989), it outposted one Professional and one local staff member each to ECA and ESCWA. ESCAP reports that since the establishment of the joint unit in 1985 co-ordination has been excellent. ECA, ECLAC and ESCWA consider that the arrangements have contributed to improved co-ordination in the formulation of its biennial work programmes but that better co-ordination arrangements are necessary. Judging from those views, it cannot be said that joint units or outposting of staff members in regional units has clearly strengthened co-ordination. However, since some of these outposted posts have been vacant for considerable periods, more time is required in order to make a concrete judgement on this matter.

4. The cycle of intergovernmental meetings

22. CPC recommended that the effect of the current cycle of intergovernmental meetings on co-ordination in planning human settlements activities of the United Nations should be studied (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 43). The methods of information collection were questionnaires sent to the units concerned with human settlements and documentation review.

23. Draft work programmes of the regional commissions in the field of human settlements are submitted to the Commission on Human Settlements for information. Policy decisions of the Commission on Human Settlements are discussed by the ECE Committee on Housing, Building and Planning under the agenda item "Co-operation with other United Nations bodies and international organizations". The main resolutions of the Commission on Human Settlements, such as those on the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless and the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, have been discussed by the ESCAP Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment. The ECLAC and ESCWA Commissions do not directly discuss policy decisions of the Commission on Human Settlements. However, important General Assembly resolutions on human settlements are introduced by the Secretariat. UNCHS (Habitat) is represented at the meetings of the ECA Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment and gives an overview of its activities in Africa. Whenever feasible, the Centre also participates in the ESCAP Committee on Industry, Technology and Human Settlements; and in the ECE Committee on Housing, Building and Planning.

24. UNCHS (Habitat) states that the current cycle does not pose any difficulties for the Commission on Human Settlements to take into account the work programmes of the regional commissions in the field of human settlements; the Commission has before it the work programmes of the regional commissions in the form of information documents when approving the work programme of the Centre. In the past, the Centre invited regional representatives to Nairobi for consultations in order to examine and harmonize their draft work programmes; the practice has been discontinued due to the current financial crisis. Before the financial crisis representatives of all regional units attended sessions of the Commission on Human Settlements. However, at present not all regional units are represented at the sessions of the Commission as travel funds for the staff members of the regional unit to attend sessions of the Commission have been cut from the UNCHS (Habitat) programme budget since the biennium 1988-1989.

25. The ECE and ECLAC human settlements units report that the current cycle of intergovernmental meetings creates no difficulties for their respective commissions to co-ordinate with the Commission on Human Settlements and other regional commissions in planning United Nations activities in the field of human settlements. In odd years, the meetings of the Commission on Human Settlements and ESCAP are held so close together that resolutions or conclusions of meetings cannot be properly communicated to the other body except through direct participation and intervention during appropriate agenda items. The ESCWA unit states that the current cycle of the intergovernmental bodies concerned with human settlements makes co-ordinated planning difficult.

26. The fact that the sessions of the regional commissions and the Commission on Human Settlements are held so close together, mostly in April, and the replies of the ESCAP and ESCWA units indicate that the current cycle of intergovernmental meetings does pose some difficulties for co-ordination in planning human settlements activities. One way to mitigate such difficulties could be the restoration of prior consultations among the units concerned with human settlements, as described above. Regional units should also attend the sessions of the Commission on Human Settlements. The ECA and ESCAP units have been attending the sessions of the Commission since 1988 without the financial support of UNCHS (Habitat). The ECLAC unit was represented at the 1989 session held at Cartagena, Colombia. Other units should also find ways to attend the sessions of the Commission.

B. Co-ordination in implementation

27. CPC recommended the examination of "the possibility of increased co-ordination in implementation as a means of mitigating the effects of the limited resources available for human settlements activities. This may include the use of common data and sharing of efforts in collecting and analysing information among the secretariat units concerned with human settlements and other relevant units" (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 55 (f), based on para. 45). Methods of data collection were questionnaires sent to the units concerned with human settlements and interviews with other relevant units.

28. Use of common data: The Centre and all the regional units use statistics on housing and human settlements conditions compiled by the United Nations Statistical Office and data of the Population Division of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs. Other entities whose data are used by some of the Secretariat units concerned with human settlements are the Latin American Demographic Centre, UNEP and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). Since the United Nations Statistical Office is designated as the focal point for the collection of statistical data for the United Nations, the Centre and the regional units do not collect primary data. However, the research data of those entities, generated from the analysis of information and data already available, are used among themselves and sometimes by other units. The Centre has established a Human Settlements Data Base. If telecommunication links were established between Nairobi and the regional headquarters, the retrieval of relevant statistical and other information from the data base would be expedited

and would therefore increase the use of the data base. This could further facilitate research activities of the regional units and avoid duplication of work.

29. The Centre states that the advantages of the present arrangement is the economy in having one office (the United Nations Statistical Office) responsible for the collection of statistical data for all sectors for the United Nations and that the major disadvantages are the delay in the collection of data and the omission of certain data relevant to the work of the Centre. According to the United Nations Statistical Office, the first problem could be solved by transmitting copies of replies from national statistical offices to the Centre; such arrangements have already been made with specialized agencies and other United Nations offices. One of the purposes of having one office responsible for the collection of statistical data for the United Nations system is to avoid overburdening national statistical offices with too many requests for the same information. There are co-ordination arrangements among the United Nations organizations and within most organizations to avoid duplicate data collection. If data are needed and it is established that they are not already collected, collection may be initiated. In planning for the collection of statistics from member States in any specific field such as human settlements, due care must be taken of collection arrangements in the closely related fields of statistics. Unless such co-ordinated approaches to data collections are used, the result will not be cost-effective and is apt to result in the collection of non-comparable statistics. In this connection it may be noted that the statistical divisions of ECE and ESCAP collect certain data that are not included in the statistical data of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs.

30. Sharing of efforts in the collection and analysis of data: Only the ECE unit states that it conducted a regional survey for a UNCHS (Habitat) publication. The ECLAC unit is developing information systems in the area of human settlements in Latin America; this would require formal co-ordination with other units of the Secretariat. The ESCWA unit reports that information on human settlements issues in that region is scarce in the United Nations publications because it is difficult to collect such information but that ESCWA has a comparative advantage for the collection and analysis of information in the countries of the region. ESCWA therefore considers that it could act as the focal point for joint activities with such entities as UNCHS (Habitat), UNEP and UNIDO.

31. The Centre and the United Nations Statistical Office have co-ordinated closely in the field of the methodological development, collection and compilation of human settlements statistics. They jointly convened an expert-group meeting on human settlements statistics in 1987 and the Statistical Office has consulted the Centre extensively on the preparation of its new human settlements statistics questionnaire. In addition, the Statistical Office has consulted with ESCAP and ESCWA with regard to data provision and exchange. In this connection, the Statistical Office should be included with the Centre and the regional units in any action on data collection. Where the situation described in paragraph 29 above pertains, the measures indicated there should be taken by the secretariat units concerned. As for the sharing of efforts in the collection and analysis of human settlements information, replies from the regional units indicate that there has not been much sharing of efforts in this regard. Since the Commission on Human

Settlements, in its resolution 12/22, recommended that the high priority area of the Centre in the next medium-term plan should be on the national level in the areas of policies and instruments, it would be necessary to increase co-operation in the collection and analysis of human settlements information between the Centre and the regional units. Mission reports also contain useful information that could be used by other units. An exchange of such reports, including those on operational activities, would complement available data and reduce the number of data collection missions.

II. PROGRAMME PLANNING

1. Priority-setting

32. Since general issues of priority-setting have been dealt with in the report of the Secretary-General concerning priority-setting in future outlines of the proposed programme budget (A/44/272), the present report does not discuss those issues. It focuses on how the units of the Secretariat concerned with human settlements prepare proposals on priorities for the work programmes to be reviewed by their respective intergovernmental bodies.

33. CPC recommended that in the evaluation "the adequacy of the procedures and mechanisms of secretariat units for carrying out their functions in assisting intergovernmental bodies to establish priorities and for incorporating those priorities in programmes" should be addressed (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 54 (b)). The methods of data collection were questionnaires to national focal points and substantive units concerned with human settlements and documentation review.

(a) Factors for priority-setting

34. All the units concerned state that in formulating their programmes they incorporate priorities of Member States as expressed in resolutions and decisions of the relevant intergovernmental bodies. These units also utilize views of other secretariat units, specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and academics. However, these views are collected on an ad hoc basis, for example, through seminars and workshops, expert group meetings and field missions organized as part of substantive activities.

35. In most cases, national focal points review and provide views on the programmes only after they are prepared, at the sessions of the respective intergovernmental bodies. Furthermore, since not all the national focal points attend the sessions of the relevant intergovernmental bodies, consultations for reflecting their views on the proposals do not take place. In the case of UNCHS (Habitat) the views of Governments are communicated through meetings of Permanent Representatives accredited to the Centre at Nairobi and direct contacts with responsible governmental officials and experts in ministries concerned with human settlements, who are not necessarily the national focal points. The Centre and some regional units also obtain the views of governmental experts in human settlements on various subprogramme proposals at subregional meetings and expert-group meetings at the national and global levels. Systematic

pre-consultations with appropriate governmental experts would be desirable in order to reflect more comprehensive views in the proposals.

36. It has been reported that the response rates of Governments to the Secretariat's requests for information were not very high. 7/ However, the ESCAP Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (ACPR) suggested that the procedure of giving questionnaires to Governments for their selection of priorities should be introduced. 8/ Moreover, those national focal points and contact persons who responded to open-ended questions in the questionnaires in connection with the present in-depth evaluation indicated in general that they preferred more frequent and constant contacts with the Secretariat. Contacts with national focal points should be strengthened and, where appropriate, their views collected before the preparation of proposals. For that purpose, the following methods might be used, either singly or in combination: mail questionnaires, telephone interviews and regional and subregional meetings of governmental experts convened for the purpose of formulating United Nations human settlements programmes. ECLAC and ESCWA should establish a network of national focal points as soon as possible.

(b) Review of the Secretariat proposals by governing bodies

37. At its twenty-sixth session, CPC recommended that the work programme contained in the proposed programme budget submitted to it should be the same as that submitted to the functional or regional intergovernmental bodies concerned, which should consider it prior to its review by the Committee to the extent permitted by the current cycle of meetings. 9/

38. UNCHS (Habitat) submits the same work programme to both the Commission on Human Settlements and CPC. The decisions of the Commission on Human Settlements concerning the changes in priority designation for the UNCHS (Habitat) work programme for the biennium 1990-1991 (HS/C/12/9), made at its twelfth session, held from 24 April to 3 May 1989 and contained in its decision 12/23, were transmitted to CPC in time for its deliberations on the proposed programme budget at its twenty-ninth session. The Commission also reviewed the draft programme for human settlements in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (HS/C/12/8) at the same session. In its resolution 12/22, the Commission recommended that subprogramme 2 (National policies and instruments) should be accorded high priority.

39. The Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment reviewed the ECA human settlements work programme for the biennium 1988-1989 at its fourth meeting, held in February 1987. However, the Committee's report on its fifth meeting, held in February 1989 (E/ECA/CM.15/23), did not make any reference to the 1990-1991 work programme in the area of human settlements. At its twenty-fourth session, held from 6 to 10 April 1989, the ECA Commission reviewed the ECA human settlements work programme for 1990-1991, contained in document E/ECA/CM.15/33, which was basically the same as that submitted to CPC. Based on the recommendations of the ECA secretariat, the Commission, in its resolution 674 (XXIV) of 7 April 1989, decided to establish an open-ended ad hoc committee empowered to examine the draft proposals for the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 to be submitted by the ECA Executive Secretary and to make

appropriate recommendations to the Secretary-General on behalf of the Commission so that he can incorporate the ECA proposals into his own proposals for consideration by CPC in time. The open-ended Ad Hoc Committee debated the issue of priority-setting at length and decided, on the basis of the priority designated by the General Assembly to the Africa region under the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, 10/ to urge the Secretary-General to treat all the subprogrammes in the proposed programme for ECA as a priority.

40. Each year, the ECE unit submits a five-year programme of work to the ECE Committee on Housing, Building and Planning. A typical work programme describes each programme element with a brief account of work to be undertaken during the next year until the Committee meets again, indicating the expected duration of the programme element. The biennial programme budgets submitted to CPC have been prepared, based on the five-year programmes of work approved by the ECE Committee. Certain differences exist between a five-year programme of work submitted to the ECE Committee and a proposed programme budget submitted to CPC. There are more programme elements in the five-year programme of work than in the proposed programme budget, owing to the requirements of the ECE Committee for more detailed and specific information on the work to be undertaken and also because of the different time-frame. The member States of the ECE Committee are actively involved in planning the ECE human settlements activities. If a member State wishes a new programme element or an activity to be undertaken, it submits a detailed written proposal to the ECE Committee for review and approval according to the criteria and format decided by the ECE Commission in 1987. 11/ The programme of work as approved by the Committee is submitted to the ECE Commission. As for the next medium-term plan, the ECE Commission in its decision R(44), adopted at its resumed forty-fourth session, held on 5 June 1989, requested the Executive Secretary to transmit to the Secretary-General the draft medium-term plan for 1992-1997 contained in document E/ECE/1194 and views expressed thereon. No views were expressed as to the recommendation of human settlements as a high priority area.

41. In its resolution 489 (PLEN.19) of 14 August 1987, the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean decided to abolish the sessional committee on human settlements. Therefore, at the twenty-second session of the Commission, held in 1988, the human settlements work programme for the period 1990-1991 was dealt with in the same way as other aspects of the Commission's work programme. The work programme followed the basic structure of the programme budget, but it contained additional categories of information, such as "relation with other programmes and organizational units of the United Nations system and with other international and regional bodies" and "users, how to reach them and anticipated uses". Since the work programme for the biennium 1990-1991 was prepared in 1988, certain changes were made in the proposed programme budget prepared in 1989. 12/ Since the ECLAC Commission meets in April of even years, it will not review the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 until April 1990.

42. There is no specialized intergovernmental body reviewing the work of the ESCWA programme in human settlements. The ESCWA Commission considered the draft medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (E/ESCWA/C.1/15/10 (Part II)) at its fifteenth session, held from 13 to 18 May 1989. In its resolution 173 (XV) of

18 May 1989, the Commission approved in principle the draft medium-term plan. However, it recognized the need for the revision in the light of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade and of other regional and international developments and requested the ESCWA Executive Secretary to submit to the Technical Committee at its seventh session, in 1991, a progress report on the revision of the plan. The Commission also reviewed and approved in its resolution 174 (XV) the programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1990-1991 proposed by the secretariat.

43. At its forty-fifth session, held from 27 March to 5 April 1989, ESCAP Commission reviewed the draft programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1990-1991 contained in document E/ESCAP/680, which was basically the same as the one submitted to CPC. However, while the ESCAP Commission designated all three programme elements in human settlements as the high priority, 13/ programme element 2.1 "development and management of low-income shelter and land" was designated as the lowest priority in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. The ESCAP Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and Environment reviews the programme of work after its approval by the ESCAP Commission. Any changes in the programme of work suggested by the Committee are submitted to the next session of the Commission for its approval. The Commission reviewed and approved the proposed programme structure of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 contained in document E/ESCAP/682. 14/ The draft text for the medium-term plan will be considered by the Commission at its forty-sixth session, in 1990.

44. Certain measures could be taken by the Secretariat units in order to improve their assistance to intergovernmental bodies in priority-setting. For example, the work programmes of the ECLAC and ESCWA units were reviewed by the ECLAC Commission and the ESCWA Technical Committee and Commission, respectively, which are concerned with the review of all the regional programmes under their jurisdiction. In order to assist those intergovernmental bodies in making informed judgements, meetings of governmental experts might be organized or advantage might be taken of regional seminars to discuss the formulation of work programmes before preparing their proposals to their respective intergovernmental bodies.

(c) Incorporation of intergovernmental priorities into work programmes of the Secretariat

45. One of the problems concerning priorities is the difference in the definition of priority utilized by the central and regional bodies. High-priority activities in the field of human settlements of the ESCWA secretariat are assessment and improvement of the building materials and construction and low-cost housing. 15/ The ESCWA unit also reported that, in order to assist Governments of the region in the improvement of building materials technology and of building methods, it included building materials as a high-priority area of concern in its human settlements medium-term plan for 1984-1989. 16/ However, the field of building materials was designated as the highest priority area in the programme budget only for the biennium 1986-1987. This difference in designation is due to the difference in the concept "highest priority" that is used by the central body and a simple "high priority" that is used by the regional bodies. Similarly, at its

thirty-ninth session, in 1983, the ESCAP Commission decided that the total regular budget resources corresponding to the priority programme elements should not exceed 60 per cent of the resources required for the work programme as a whole. 17/ The ESCAP secretariat selects 10 per cent highest and lowest programme elements from among the 60 per cent priority and 40 per cent non-designation categories respectively for the purpose of consideration by the General Assembly. 18/ The ESCAP secretariat also reported that no marked difference was noted in the mode of implementation of the high-priority programme elements. 19/ This observation can be applied to other programmes on human settlements, as indicated in table 1 below.

Table 1. Human settlements: Analysis of actual programme performance at the output level in relation to priority designations in the programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987; percentage of outputs implemented

	<u>Highest priority</u>		<u>No designation</u>		<u>Lowest priority</u>	
	<u>Programmed a/</u>	<u>All b/</u>	<u>Programmed a/</u>	<u>All b/</u>	<u>Programmed a/</u>	<u>All b/</u>
UNCHS (Habitat)	16	66	52	71	33	38
ECA	75	75	61	61	50	50
ECE	60	60	75	83	71	71
ECLAC	c/	c/	76	84	44	44
ESCWA	33	33	76	92	0	0
ESCAP	0	33	57	66	c/	c/

Source: Central Monitoring Unit.

a/ Outputs implemented as originally programmed, in percentage of outputs programmed.

b/ Outputs implemented as programmed, plus reformulations, plus all additional outputs, in percentage of outputs programmed and those added by legislation.

c/ Technical assistance activities, not included in the analysis of the Central Monitoring Unit.

46. In order to facilitate the incorporation of intergovernmental priorities in the work programmes of the Secretariat units and subsequent implementation of the work programmes, the definitions of priority used by different bodies should be harmonized.

2. Extrabudgetary resources

47. The Secretary-General has been requested to address the question of the redesigning of programming and budgeting methodology covering the forecasting, presentation and revisions of extrabudgetary resources projections and expenditures in his report on extrabudgetary resources to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session. Consequently, no general issues will be examined in the present section.

48. At its twenty-eighth session, in 1988, CPC requested that "in the evaluation report to be submitted in 1990 information on the actual materialization and expenditure of extrabudgetary resources should be included". 20/ It also recommended that the following issue should be examined: "the adequacy of procedures and arrangements for projecting the amount of extrabudgetary resources" (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 54 (c)). Methods of information collection included questionnaires to the substantive units concerned with human settlements and documentation review.

49. Estimates and actual amount of extrabudgetary resources: The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions noted in 1989 that the reporting mechanisms in place concerning extrabudgetary resources were inadequate and that this problem was exacerbated because authority to establish and implement trust funds had been delegated to offices away from Headquarters, i.e., the process of decentralization had hampered proper reporting. 21/ This was true in the case of extrabudgetary resources on human settlements: complete information was not available at Headquarters, for most of the secretariat units. Table 2 was therefore prepared on the basis of information provided by the secretariat units concerned with human settlements. It is difficult to calculate the exact amount of extrabudgetary resources for programme activities for various reasons, including the fact that the project cycle and programme cycle often do not coincide and the difficulty in obtaining financial information on in-kind contributions, such as conference servicing provided by donor countries in connection with seminars and workshops. In this connection, it should be noted that the ECE and ESCAP units receive such in-kind contributions on many occasions, but that these contributions are not reflected in table 2.

Table 2. Human settlements: Estimated expenditures, actual income and expenditures of extrabudgetary resources
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	1984-1985			1986-1987		
	Estimates	Income	Expenditure	Estimates	Income	Expenditure
UNCHS (Habitat)	16 993.5 a/	16 523.1 a/	15 236.6 a/	21 656.3 a/	15 088.9 a/	15 174.7 a/
ECA	500.0	300.0	276.3	30.0	345.1	317.1
ECE	0	101.7	46.5	67.8	142.9	56.4
ECLAC	0	0	0	0	15.0	15.0
ESCWA	0	11	0	75.7	25.0	25.0
ESCAP	2 801.0	296.4	276.0	948.4	392.0	325.0

Source: UNCHS (Habitat) and the regional units concerned with human settlements.

a/ Excludes costs of operational projects of UNCHS (Habitat).

50. Methods of forecasting extrabudgetary resources: Most of the Secretariat units concerned with human settlements use past experience as a basis for forecasting the level of extrabudgetary resources.

51. Criteria for inclusion: There are differences in reporting on extrabudgetary activities. For example, the ECE unit includes in its proposed work programme only those extrabudgetary activities for which donor countries have already been identified. On the other hand, the ESCAP unit includes all the activities approved by the Project Review Committee and ACPR in its proposed work programme to the ESCAP Commission. 22/

52. Since the ACPR meets quite frequently, it could review the proposed work programme at an early stage so that the ESCAP secretariat could start discussion with potential donors. If this were done, the secretariat would be able to provide the ESCAP Commission and subsequently CPC with a list of projects for which donors have been identified. This measure would eventually solve the apparent problem of over-programming and the associated statistical artifact of a low implementation rate. This could also respond to the request made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to ESCAP in 1989 concerning more realistic extrabudgetary resource forecasts. 23/

3. Factors for planning

53. CPC recommended the following issues for study: "The extent to which consideration is given when planning the programme, to such factors as the availability of resources and the capacity of the secretariat units. This is necessary in order to avoid programmes that are over-ambitious in scope and unrealistic in their expectations" (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 54 (d)). Information was collected through the questionnaire addressed to the units concerned with human settlements and documentation review.

54. Intergovernmental mandates are the primary factor to be taken into consideration in planning a programme. Since this question has been addressed in section 1 on priority-setting, the present section focuses on other factors. Apart from mandates, the availability of resources is the most important factor in planning. If the resources available are not commensurate with the mandates given, most of the units try to obtain extrabudgetary resources to supplement what is available. In case this is not possible, they try to reduce the scope and coverage of the activities. If a resource shortage is detected during the implementation phase, they again try to obtain extrabudgetary resources to fill the gap. If this is not possible, certain outputs are terminated. The Centre reports that a number of outputs have been terminated owing to unavailability of extrabudgetary resources

55. The evaluation team considered it pertinent to look at implementation rates in this regard. The programme performance report for the biennium 1986-1987 shows that the overall implementation rate of UNCHS was 66 per cent. 24/ The implementation rate of the ECA human settlements programme (80 per cent) was slightly higher than the average of all ECA programmes. Those of ECE (78 per cent) and ESCWA (81 per cent) human settlements programmes were about the average of all programmes of their respective Commissions. Those of ECLAC (68 per cent) and ESCAP (66 per cent) human settlements programmes were lower than the average. 25/ Low implementation was caused in part by the high vacancies that those units experienced during the biennium. In order to achieve more realistic programming, the resource situation of the Secretariat should be explained clearly to the intergovernmental bodies so that mandates given to the Secretariat would be more commensurate with the available resources.

56. In addition to the availability of resources, the professional capacity of the substantive unit was listed by the ECLAC and ESCAP units. The ECLAC unit also listed the feasibility of co-ordinating activities with other national and international institutions. UNCHS (Habitat) also listed as a factor its experience in executing previous programmes.

4. Consistency of activities with the strategies in the medium-term plan

57. CPC recommended that "the extent to which the programmed and implemented activities are consistent with the strategies stated in the medium-term plan" should be studied (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 54 (e)). Information was collected through the questionnaire addressed to the units concerned with human settlements and documentation review.

58. In general, strategies stated in the medium-term plan do not list the planned activities in sequence. Nor do they give information on the time-frame in which such activities will be undertaken. A comparison between the type and subject area of activities listed in the strategies and outputs listed in programme budgets for the bienniums 1984-1985, 1986-1987 and 1988-1989 indicates that the majority of UNCHS (Habitat) and regional outputs relate to activities listed in the medium-term plan. CPC did not make extensive changes to the secretariat proposals for the work programmes in the field of human settlements.

59. UNCHS (Habitat) and the ECE and ESCAP units state that the original strategies proved valid and appropriate. The ESCWA unit reports that changes in resource availability and in the nature of the problems addressed necessitated corresponding changes in the strategies as originally formulated. 26/ The ECLAC unit also states that it was necessary to change strategies owing mainly to resource constraints.

60. The 1987 International Year of Shelter for the Homeless proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/221 of 20 December 1982 was a major undertaking for the United Nations entities concerned with human settlements. There was no reference to the Year in the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 27/ and in the two subsequent revisions 28/. Only in the third revision was a reference made to the evaluation to be undertaken during the biennium 1990-1991 of the results of national policies, programmes and projects related to the Year 29/.

5. Monitoring and evaluation

61. CPC recommended that "the availability and adequacy of mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation, and the extent to which the results of these two functions are incorporated in planning" should be addressed in the evaluation (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 54 (g)). Methods of information collection included questionnaires sent to the substantive units concerned with human settlements and documentation review.

62. Monitoring procedures and mechanisms: In addition to the periodic programme performance reports submitted to the Central Monitoring Unit, some of the units concerned have established internal monitoring arrangements. The Centre has recently established a computerized system to monitor programme delivery on a biennial basis. Under this system, the actual implementation is compared with the planned delivery at the end of each six-month period. In ECA, the Executive Secretary reviews with programme managers and their staff every six months, the implementation of programmes and projects. The ESCWA secretariat has established an internal system to monitor the utilization of resources. The ESCAP secretariat has a system that requires a quarterly report on the progress of the implementation of the work programme.

63. Evaluation procedures and mechanisms: The Centre and the regional units conduct evaluation at the subprogramme level as part of the self-evaluation system established by the Secretary-General in 1986. In addition, they carry out evaluation of UNDP-financed projects according to UNDP procedures. They also

conduct special evaluations at the request of their governing bodies; for example, the evaluation of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless by the Centre (HS/C/11/2) and the 1984 evaluation by ECE of its programme element on international co-operation on urban and regional research. The Centre began its efforts in programme evaluation as early as 1980 and established its own self-evaluation system in 1988, covering both research and development activities and technical co-operation projects. Training programmes of the Centre are regularly evaluated by Governments, donors and by the Centre itself. The ECA, ECE and ESCAP units have developed evaluation questionnaires for meetings and workshops.

64. Although further improvement is always necessary, it can be concluded that, compared to several years ago, considerable progress has been made by many of the units concerned in the development of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

65. Reporting on the results of monitoring and evaluation: There are differences in reporting the results of monitoring and evaluation exercises to the respective intergovernmental bodies. The Centre includes information on monitoring and evaluation in the progress report of the Executive Director (see HS/C/12/2 for the most recent information). The Executive Director gives a general account of monitoring and evaluation activities, but does not refer to specific findings of such exercises. The ESCAP secretariat also provides general information on monitoring and evaluation activities in its report on the mobilization of extrabudgetary resources. Information on the findings is given only on special in-depth evaluations (see, for example, E/ESCAP/688, paras. 26-37). The ECLAC secretariat unit submitted to its Commission in 1988 a programme performance report (LC/G.1514 (Ses. 22/14)) containing a summary analysis of performance at the output level, which is similar to tables contained in the programme performance report prepared by the Central Monitoring Unit. The ESCWA secretariat submits a report on the status of programme performance and proposed modification, including information on the status of outputs (those planned, completed and in progress) and resources. The report also includes proposals for modifications (see E/ESCWA/C.1/15/4 (part I)/Rev.1 for the most recent information). The ECA secretariat submitted a report on self-evaluation of programmes in ECA (E/ECA/CM.15/32) to the ECA Commission at its twenty-fourth session in 1989. The report contained the findings and conclusions of self-evaluations that critically examined the relevance and effectiveness of subprogrammes and recommendations based on the results of the evaluation. An evaluation of the human settlements programme has been included in the second report of self-evaluation of programmes in ECA (E/ECA/CM.16/30) which is to be presented to the ECA Commission at its twenty-fifth session.

66. Utilization of the lessons learned: The Centre reports that the results of the 1986 evaluation of its publications helped to identify more clearly the needs and priorities of target groups. At present, no unit concerned with human settlements has a mechanism for systematic follow-up of recommendations arising from self-evaluation exercises. It is therefore recommended that clear guidelines and procedures for the utilization of monitoring and evaluation findings be developed and established.

6. Relationships between research and non-research activities

67. CPC recommended the evaluation of "the balance and compatibility between research and operational activities; in particular, the extent to which the results of research activities are used as input into operational activities or vice versa" (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 54 (h)). Means of information collection included questionnaires sent to substantive units concerned with human settlements, interviews with those familiar with the human settlement activities of the United Nations and documentation review.

68. Balance between research and non-research activities: Most project elements (the smallest component at which information on cost is available) include both research and non-research activities. Therefore, the information given in table 3 below is a rough approximation only and illustrates significant differences in the composition of activities for each programme, reflecting different needs and priorities of each programme as approved by the respective governing bodies.

Table 3. Human settlements: breakdown of resources by type of activities, 1988-1989 (percentage)

	Research activities	Non-research activities <u>a/</u>
UNCHS (Habitat)	19.5	80.5
ECA	<u>b/</u>	<u>b/</u>
ECE	10	90
ECLAC	85	15
ESCWA	75	25
ESCAP	40	60

Source: UNCHS (Habitat) and the regional commissions secretariat.

a/ Includes technical co-operation projects, seminars, workshops, expert group meetings, training, information activities and advisory services. Excludes general administration and management activities.

b/ Information not received.

69. Linkages between the research and non-research activities: UNCHS (Habitat) and the regional units report that they use experience from non-research activities to identify research areas and information obtained during the advisory missions and from field projects for research. Research outputs are used for training courses and workshops, which in turn are used for the dissemination of technical information contained in research outputs.

70. The Centre states that its research and development programme is prepared by the Commission on Human Settlements on the basis of emerging issues of concern to Member States in the area of human settlements, and that it addresses both long-term and short-term objectives. On the other hand, the technical co-operation activities are formulated on the basis of requests from individual Governments to address the specific immediate assistance needs of a given country. Therefore, the link between research and operational activities cannot be a direct sequential process, given the very different ways in which the subject-matter for the two programmes is developed. With respect to the linkage between the priorities of the global programme (which consists of research and development activities), and the national priorities (as indicated in technical co-operation and other operational assistance), CPC, in reviewing the cross-organizational programme analysis on human settlements (E/AC.51/1984/5 and Corr.1-2), "noted national priorities, as indicated in the patterns of requests for technical co-operation and other operational assistance, differed from the priorities of programmes which were formulated and approved at the global level. Accordingly, it was desirable to find a way of linking global priorities to national needs so that those actions reinforced each other and that activities defined at an intergovernmental level could support and inspire those which took place at the country level". 30/

71. The Centre has over 200 ongoing technical co-operation projects each year that are executed by its Technical Co-operation Division. Research activities are undertaken by its Research and Development Division. The Centre reports that it recognizes the complementarity of these two sets of activities and ensures close interaction to derive the maximum benefit from both. However, growth in certain areas of technical co-operation projects was not matched by the growth in the same areas in research.

III. PROGRAMME RESULTS

72. The present section reports on the overall assessment made by national focal points, Member States and non-governmental organizations of the United Nations programmes on human settlements. It also discusses issues recommended by CPC for evaluation.

A. Overall assessments

73. It was suggested in the progress report that this evaluation would not look at the impact of the human settlements programmes for various reasons, including the difficulty of isolating United Nations inputs from those of other bodies and the way subprogramme objectives had been formulated (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 50). However, several attempts were made to gather some information on the overall achievements of the programmes. The national focal points of UNCHS (Habitat), ECA, ECE and ESCAP were requested to give their views on the subprogramme activities of their respective programmes. A review was made of discussions on human settlements at the relevant intergovernmental bodies and views were also sought from non-governmental organizations (see annexes II and III for the summary tables of the replies from national focal points and non-governmental organizations).

(a) Views of national focal points

74. As mentioned in paragraph 5 above, as of the preparation of the present report, the response rates of the national focal points were not high, ranging from 28.2 to 41.2 per cent, which is not statistically conclusive. Therefore, the following should be considered as only a preliminary assessment based on the views of those which responded to the questionnaires. It should be noted that national focal points are different for each programme, except in a very few cases in which the same focal points rated the programmes of both UNCHS (Habitat) and ECE. Therefore, this is not a comparison among the programmes since the standard applied by focal points may well vary from programme to programme. However, since the replies of the focal points reflect what they expect from each programme, the secretariat concerned should try to respond to that expectation.

75. According to the replies of the national focal points (see annex II), the Centre has been successful in subprogramme 1 (Settlements policies and strategies) and subprogramme 3 (Shelter and community services), since both subprogrammes received the rating that "UNCHS is doing good work" from over 70 per cent of the responding focal points. Activities on the dissemination of scientific and technical information received more positive ratings. Subprogramme 6 (Land), subprogramme 7 (Mobilization of finance for human settlements development) and subprogramme 8 (Human settlements institutions and management) received the rating "UNCHS should improve its work" from a large percentage of the responding focal points. Because of the low response rate, it would not be appropriate to make a definitive judgement. However, the findings point to some potential problems that deserve the attention of the Centre.

76. In the case of the ECA programme, activities on programming and policy formulation and on building materials received more positive ratings, while the rest received more negative ratings.

77. Most of the subprogrammes of ECE received more positive than negative rating; in particular, ECE is considered to be doing good work in the field of human settlements and related trends and policies (subprogramme 1 (Integrated settlements policies and strategies)) and in the field of international harmonization of building regulations and standards (subprogramme 4 (Building)). The ESCAP subprogramme 1 (Integrated settlements policies and planning) and subprogramme 2 (Development of shelter, infrastructure and land) received positive ratings. Subprogramme 3 (Stimulation of institutional capabilities and public participation) received more negative ratings.

(b) Views of Member States as expressed at intergovernmental meetings

78. According to UNCTAD, information on the quality and usefulness of publications obtained from monitoring statements made at intergovernmental meetings was of limited value where the statements were of a general nature and where it was difficult to distinguish between the political and the technical assessments.^{31/} However, such monitoring can produce general insights into Governments' stands towards United Nations activities. A review of the statements made in the Second Committee of the General Assembly in 1988 and 1989 revealed a strong support for

and interest in the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, which was formulated by the Commission on Human Settlements with the assistance of the Secretariat and, in particular, of the Centre.

(c) Views of non-governmental organizations

79. A series of interviews with the representatives of 31 non-governmental organizations revealed a great deal of support for the goals and strategies of the Centre. Some 102 non-governmental organizations (or 76 per cent of the total) in their replies to the questionnaire indicated that they would collaborate with UNCHS (Habitat) in its activities and 73 (or 54 per cent of the total) indicated that they were using the information that they received from the Centre.

B. Issues selected by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination

1. Distribution and utilization of outputs

80. The Committee recommended that "the extent to which outputs are reaching the intended users" (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 56 (b)) and "the extent to which the major publications of the units concerned are utilized and the usefulness of such publications" (*Ibid.*, para. 56 (c)) should be addressed in the evaluation. Information was gathered from the national focal points for the programmes of UNCHS (Habitat), ECA, ECE and ESCAP as well as from non-governmental organizations.

(a) Distribution of outputs

81. National focal points were asked to indicate the receipt or non-receipt of selected publications listed in the questionnaire. The receipt of UNCHS (Habitat) documents and publications by its national focal points ranges from excellent to very poor. Three national focal points received 100 per cent of the 22 documents and publications listed in the questionnaire, another received 91 per cent, and another did not receive any. The rest of the focal points received between 14 and 68 per cent. Five national focal points did not receive any of the 15 ECA documents and publications listed in the questionnaire and the rest received from 13 to 67 per cent. In the case of ECE, the distribution system seems to be working quite well; three focal points received 100 per cent of the 14 documents and publications listed. The rest received from 71 to 93 per cent of the publications. Four focal points of ESCAP did not receive any of the 15 documents and publications selected for evaluation, and the rest received from 13 to 50 per cent. With the exception of ECE, receipt of outputs by national focal points is problematical.

82. Among the 31 representatives of non-governmental organizations interviewed, all but one were aware of receiving Centre material directly or indirectly. Among the 134 in the non-governmental organizations questionnaire group, 84 (63 per cent of the total) received United Nations publications on human settlements. Only 13 per cent of the questionnaire group were receiving publications from the regional units. This is a low percentage considering the increasing non-governmental organizations participation in human settlements activities.

(b) Utilization of outputs

83. The great majority of the national focal points stated that they used human settlements information (either in the form of publications or by other means) from the United Nations. Information received from UNCHS (Habitat) was considered most useful as an input into policy decisions but least useful for integrating into recipients' own publications. The ECE information is viewed as most useful for background information for meetings and general reference and least useful for preparing educational/training materials. The information of ECA and ESCAP appears to have been utilized less than that of the other two units. However, because of the low response rate, no definitive judgement can be made in this regard.

84. Two thirds of the 31 non-governmental organizations representatives interviewed found UNCHS (Habitat) publications useful and used them for training, for dissemination, for policy guidance or for some combination of these. Their quality was generally praised, although there was some criticism of the technical vocabulary or "UN-ese" of certain documents. Seventy non-governmental organizations in the questionnaire group (or 54 per cent of the total or 87 per cent of those which received information) stated that they used the information received from the United Nations. Of those 73 non-governmental organizations, about 34 per cent considered it very helpful and 64 per cent regarded it as moderately helpful. A total of 48 non-governmental organizations used the information for background for meetings, 40 integrated it into their own publications and, 34 used the information as material for training programmes. The information was also used by some of them as reference material, for publicity and for research. One non-governmental organization used the ECE information in formulating its own work programme.

85. The human settlements information that reached the users is considered useful by recipients. The majority of the recipients used the information for many different purposes.

(c) Readership survey

86. Systematic readership surveys of United Nations publications in the field of human settlements were undertaken in 1986 for UNCHS (Habitat) publications and in 1984 for ECE publications. The UNCTAD secretariat collects information from users on a routine basis by inserting a single-page questionnaire in all its major publications. It reports that, although the response rate was poor, the information received was still useful and provided a helpful insight into the perception of end-users concerning the quality and usefulness of the secretariat's documents, and that such insight could only benefit the secretariat's work. 32/ Because of the expected low response rate, open-ended questions would be helpful to collect qualitative information suggesting problem areas for further investigation or new ideas worth exploring. The Centre has already decided to insert a short evaluation questionnaire in each new publication. Other units should also follow this practice.

2. Usefulness of non-research activities

87. CPC recommended that "the usefulness of non-research activities, such as training programmes and expert group meetings" should be addressed in the evaluation (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 56 (d)). The relevant information was collected through a review of statements at intergovernmental meetings.

88. In 1986, the Commission on Human Settlements, in its resolution 9/4, noted with satisfaction the efforts of the Centre with regard to comprehensive training in the field of human settlements (see also para. 63). Delegations to the ECE Commission stated that the seminars and study tours organized under the auspices of the ECE Committee on Housing, Building and Planning Committee had been of great assistance in the formulation and implementation of appropriate policies in the field of human settlements. 33/ In the case of ECE, the member States actively participate in the organization of non-research activities, which seems to ensure the usefulness of such activities. The ESCAP Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment expressed its appreciation in 1987 for the catalytic role and preparatory work of the ESCAP unit in the establishment of the Regional Network of Local Authorities for Management of Human Settlements and commended the secretariat's work in organizing international meetings, workshops and seminars in the field of building materials and rural centre and settlement planning. 34/ The ESCAP Commission regarded the establishment and operation of the Regional Network as the most important development in regional co-operation for human settlements and commended in 1989 the ESCAP secretariat on its efficient performance of the secretariat functions of the Network. 35/

3. Operational activities

89. CPC recommended that "the effectiveness of operational activities in achieving their stated objectives" should be addressed in the evaluation (E/AC.51/1988/4, para. 56 (e)). Since the Central Evaluation Unit was unable to undertake field missions for budgetary reasons and since it is difficult in general to obtain views, by means of a questionnaire, from national counterparts after the completion of projects, it was decided to rely on the available information on the subject.

90. Two comprehensive evaluations of operational activities in the field of human settlements have been undertaken recently. One, Review of the HABITAT programme financed by UNCDF in the least developed countries, prepared by consultants for the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) in 1989, contains proposed guidelines for a UNCDF approach in the field of human settlements and useful information on projects, the majority of which have been executed by UNCHS (Habitat). However, the issue for evaluation recommended by CPC is not addressed directly in the review.

91. UNDP is also undertaking a thematic review of its assistance in the urban sector. The first phase is a desk review based on several sources of information, such as financial data and information on the type and geographical distribution of UNDP activities available for 483 projects funded by UNDP between 1971 and 1989, and evaluation and terminal reports for a sample of those projects. 36/ This phase

was completed in February 1990. The second phase will be case studies of UNDP-assisted urban development projects in six countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America to be completed in April 1990. The case studies will provide more detailed information on the implementation of UNDP technical assistance activities as well as assessments of their strategic impact and importance in addressing urban development issues. 37/

92. The main executing agency for UNDP human settlements projects is the Centre, which implemented 62 per cent of the total budget allocated by UNDP to projects on human settlements. 38/ Most of the directly targeted urban projects funded by UNDP have as an immediate or long-term objective, the strengthening of the capacity of organizations and institutions in developing countries to carry out urban development programmes. 39/ According to the above-mentioned report on the desk review, which incorporated a UNCHS (Habitat) review of in-depth project evaluation reports, it is difficult to make general judgements about the success or failure of the institution-building components of urban development projects supported by UNDP, the Centre and other United Nations agencies over the past 20 years. The desk review found that some clearly achieved their goals and others did not; that some of the projects achieved some of their objectives, but not all of them; and that some of the projects achieved immediate objectives, but seem to have had little lasting impact on strengthening administrative capacity after international funding ended. 40/

93. The desk review lists the following as possible factors affecting the implementation and outcome of the urban development projects assisted by the United Nations system: (a) government policies and level of commitment and support, (b) general economic and social conditions that form the environment or context within which the projects had to be executed, (c) project and programme design, (d) organizational structures and institutional arrangements for project implementation, (e) government administrative and legal procedures, (f) quality and availability of counterpart technical and professional staff, and (g) United Nations agency procedures and recruitment and performance of United Nations technical advisors. 41/

94. Phase II of the UNDP evaluation is expected to shed more light on these factors. After the completion of the second phase, the final report of the thematic evaluation will be transmitted to the UNDP Governing Council in June 1990. The final report will also be disseminated to the UNDP field offices and concerned executing agencies. Lessons learned from this evaluation are expected to be incorporated in the design of future projects and utilized in their implementation.

IV. DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

95. CPC recommended that the issues indicated in paragraph 59 of the progress report be included in the evaluation. The paragraph states:

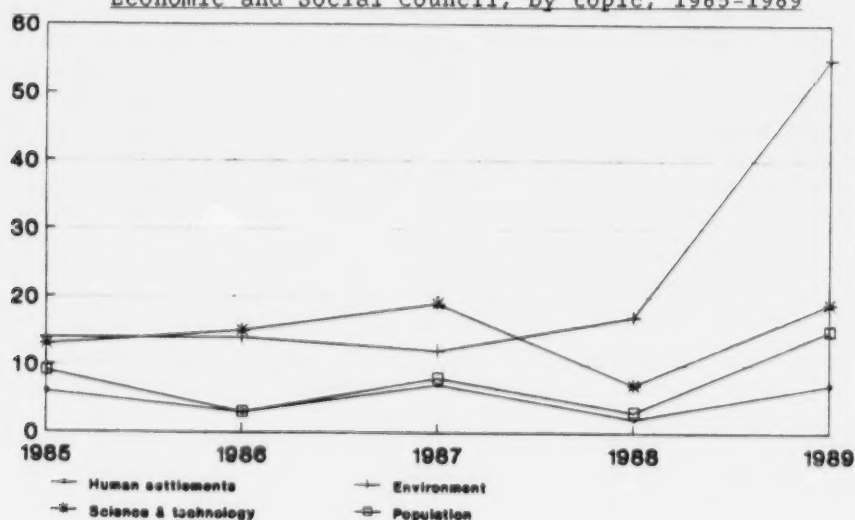
"The United Nations, because of its unique position as a world organization with global membership, has the potential for playing an important role as a purveyor of information and has in fact been doing so in such areas as statistical information. However, doubts have been expressed by a number of countries about the capacity of United Nations organizations for ensuring the effective flow of information on development policies and technical information. It may therefore be useful to re-examine the dissemination strategies and systems of the units concerned to see whether or not this assessment would be valid for human settlements, to identify problem areas and suggest means of improvement".

Methods of data collection included questionnaires sent to national focal points and non-governmental organizations and review of relevant documents and newspaper clippings.

(a) General observations

96. In the Second Committee of the General Assembly in 1989, the following statement was made: "Unlike more prominent issues such as debt, population and the environment, the issue of human settlements tended to attract little attention, yet it was surely one of the most fundamental and urgent problems facing the international community. 42/ Figure 1, which presents the result of a review of statements made by the Member States during the general debate of the Economic and Social Council during the period 1985-1989, seems to support this statement. Among the four fields compared, namely, human settlements, environment, population and science and technology, the smallest number of substantive remarks was made on human settlements, which may be a reflection of the non-controversial nature of the subject.

Figure 1: Substantive remarks during the general debate in the Economic and Social Council, by topic, 1985-1989



(b) Output distribution system

97. As mentioned above, the receipt of outputs by national focal points and non-governmental organizations is problematical for all but the ECE unit. The distribution of documents within the United Nations is also problematical. For example, as of August 1989, only about 30 per cent of UNCHS (Habitat) documents and publications issued during 1986 and March 1989 had been received by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library in New York, which is the depository library of the United Nations system. (The situation has been corrected since then. Documents and publications are also available at the UNCHS (Habitat) New York Liaison Office.) Transmission of documents and publications of the regional commissions to the Library was better; on the average, above 70 per cent had reached the Library as of August 1989. However, the distribution process often has long delays so that it is often difficult to obtain at Headquarters materials recently issued at other duty stations.

98. A review of the mailing lists of the units concerned revealed that publications of some of the units are not mailed to some member States. One country is missing from the ECE mailing list, 12 out of 40 countries are missing from the ECLAC list and 12 out of 38 from the ESCAP list. Even in the ECE list, which covers almost all its member States, the characteristics of the recipients vary from country to country. For some countries, all the major categories of end-users are included, such as policy makers in Government, governmental experts, academics, technical staff and libraries of the business and private sector. For some other countries, only one or two categories are listed. The number of recipients also vary from country to country, ranging from 1 to 34. The Centre's mailing list with some 10,000 entries has recently been updated and classified with respect to target audiences. A number of non-governmental organizations mentioned that part of the information received from the United Nations was not relevant to them. Some non-governmental organizations also suggested that mailing lists should be overhauled and more precisely targeted at potential users. This issue may also be pertinent to the ECA unit, which uses the general mailing list of the whole ECA secretariat.

99. The output distribution systems of the units concerned with human settlements are in general not well designed. Mailing lists should be overhauled. In doing so, the potential users in Governments should be identified with the assistance of national focal points. Non-governmental organizations and major academic and research organizations in each country should also be included as recipients of selected outputs. Replies to the questionnaire in connection with this evaluation can be used for this purpose. After identifying the potential users of outputs, specialized mailing lists should be prepared so that recipients will receive only those materials which are of interest to them. Since the Dag Hammarskjöld Library in New York includes only those publications which it receives in its bibliography, United Nations International Bibliographical Indexing system which is distributed world wide, both in print and machine-readable forms, the units concerned should ensure that their publications reach the Library on a timely basis.

(c) Language versions

100. Several non-governmental organizations mentioned the lack of the appropriate language versions of publications as the reason for not using the United Nations information on human settlements. In fact, over half of those listed in the most recent UNCHS (Habitat) publications catalogue issued in 1987 are available in English only. Therefore, the Centre should endeavour, within budgetary constraints, to increase the translation of its publications into other languages, using survey results to determine the most pressing needs.

(d) Use of media

101. Three United Nations information centres responded to the request to collect newspaper clippings for the six-month period from July to December 1989. The La Paz Information Centre forwarded articles that appeared in seven Spanish-language newspapers to the Central Evaluation Unit. The articles covered a wide range of issues, such as the twelfth session of the Commission on Human Settlements, the Global Strategy for Shelter to the year 2000, the World Habitat Day (2 October 1989), a report of the ECLAC/UNCHS (Habitat) Joint Unit on urban poverty, visits by officials from the Centre and a new project to be executed by the Centre. The Jakarta Information Centre sent clippings from four English-language newspapers. The articles covered extensively the events for the World Habitat Day and the Global Strategy. They also discussed other human settlements issues and the work of the United Nations system in those areas. A reference was also made to an ESCAP symposium on housing financing. Long articles on the Global Strategy that appeared in three French-language newspapers were received from the Rabat Information Centre. Those newspaper clippings reflect the efforts of the information centres in disseminating information on the United Nations activities since almost the same articles appeared in different newspapers in several instances, probably taken verbatim from the press releases prepared by the information centres concerned.

102. In 1989 the ESCAP Commission welcomed the idea of involving the non-governmental organizations and the media in explaining shelter and settlements issues and promoting understanding of those issues by policy makers and the general public. 43/ The examples given in paragraph 102 above support the Commission's decision on this matter. The Centre and the regional units should therefore further increase contact with the information centres.

(e) Suggestions for improving the dissemination of information

103. In order to improve the dissemination of information and to increase the usefulness of such information, the following suggestions were made by the national focal points:

For UNCHS (Habitat)

- (a) More rapid distribution of reports and dissemination of information;
- (b) Better editing for easy reading and more use of brief and executive summaries;

- (c) More frequent exchange of views and contact with focal points;
- (d) Restructuring of Habitat News to make it more readable.

For ECA

- (a) More regular contacts with focal points and use of focal points for information dissemination;
- (b) More audio-visual materials;
- (c) Simpler and shorter publications for busy policy makers;
- (d) More regionalization of activities.

For ECE

- (a) Establishment of measures to ensure that information is current and relevant, and timely dissemination of information to national focal points;
- (b) Shorter, intermediate and more popular reports from some of the ongoing projects, and more informative information such as statistics;
- (c) Shortening of the time required for issuing documents;
- (d) Simpler language and better typography;
- (e) Distribution of publications to appropriate libraries;
- (f) Issuance of press releases at the national level on the occasion of new publications and seminars in co-operation with the Government concerned.

For ESCAP

- (a) Regular distribution of materials to national focal points;
- (b) Establishment of contact, through national focal points, with local information centres and distribution of publications through the information centres;
- (c) Development of audio-visual information material for media;
- (d) Use of local and regional newspapers.

104. Non-governmental organizations made suggestions similar to those recommended by national focal points. In addition, they proposed better use of non-governmental organizations channels for distribution as well as increases in language versions of materials and graphic material for adult illiterates.

V. SUMMARY OF MAIN FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Main findings

105. There is interest and support for United Nations activities in the area of human settlements from both Governments and non-governmental organizations. Information on human settlements produced by the United Nations has been used both by Government experts and non-governmental organizations.

Co-ordination

106. The current co-ordination arrangements have been useful in increasing co-ordination in some aspects of the human settlements programmes. However, most of the regional units concerned with human settlements consider that better co-ordination arrangements are necessary. Although thematic planning in the area of human settlements is not feasible at present, joint programming of activities is possible in certain sub-fields of common interest to the Centre and the regional units.

107. Since the sessions of the regional commissions and the Commission on Human Settlements are held close together in odd years, the current cycle of intergovernmental meetings poses some difficulties for co-ordination in planning human settlements activities. In the past, these difficulties were less in evidence because the Centre invited regional representatives to Nairobi for consultations in order to examine and harmonize their draft work programmes before submission to the respective intergovernmental bodies; this practice has been discontinued owing to the current financial crisis. Furthermore, at present not all the regional representatives attend the sessions of the Commission on Human Settlements.

108. In order to increase co-ordination in implementation, statistical and research data have been shared by the units concerned with human settlements and other units. However, there has not been much sharing of efforts in the collection and analysis of information, including mission reports among secretariat units concerned with human settlements.

Programme planning

109. ECA, ECE and ESCAP have specialized intergovernmental bodies reviewing their human settlements programmes, but ECLAC and ESCWA do not have such specialized bodies. There are some differences in the information concerning the work programmes submitted to the regional bodies and to CPC and differences in the definition of priorities and the criteria for priority designation used by different intergovernmental bodies. However, priority designations of programme elements in work programmes did not make a significant difference in terms of the implementation rate.

110. National focal points (governmental experts) have not been systematically consulted by the secretariat units before formulating their proposed work

programmes. As noted in paragraph 35 above, the Centre and some regional units use other mechanisms for obtaining the views of Governments.

111. There are differences in criteria for inclusion of extrabudgetary activities in proposed work programmes of the units concerned with human settlements.

112. Considerable progress has been made by many of the units concerned in the development of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. However, these units have not yet established mechanisms to ensure the systematic application of monitoring and evaluation findings in the subsequent planning. Further some of them have no clear procedures or mechanisms for linking research and operational activities systematically.

Programme results

113. The outputs of the programme reaching end-users have been utilized and considered useful by many. However, distribution of outputs to national focal points is problematical for most of the units concerned. This resulted in a lack of awareness on the part of many national focal points of many United Nations human settlements activities.

Dissemination of information

114. Dissemination strategies and systems of the units concerned are problematical. There is a need to develop better system of identifying potential users and of reaching them. The news media can be an effective tool for promoting the understanding of human settlements issues by policy makers and the general public and the efforts of the United Nations information centres appear to increase the media coverage.

B. Recommendations

115. The Committee may wish to approve the following recommendations:

Co-ordination

(a) The Centre should use more effectively the potential of existing co-ordination mechanisms within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination in performing its function of co-ordinating human settlement activities of the United Nations system, for example through specialized subsidiary machinery of the Committee in the manner used for system-wide co-ordination of activities on statistics and on women (see para. 16);

(b) Joint programming of activities should be attempted in the three sub-fields of human settlements in which the Centre and all regional units have been involved namely, settlement policies and strategies, settlement planning and human settlements institutions and management (see para. 19);

(c) In order to improve co-ordination in planning human-settlements activities, pre-planning consultations between the Centre and the regional units should be resumed. To the extent that budgetary restraints permit, representatives of all the regional units should attend sessions of the Commission on Human Settlements (see para. 26);

(d) In order to have the relevant statistical data on a more timely basis, the units concerned with human settlements should request the United Nations Statistical Office to transmit copies of replies from national statistical offices to them. Where data are needed and it is established that they are not already collected, collection should be initiated. In planning such collection of new data from member States, due attention should be paid to the collection arrangements in closely related fields. A co-ordinated approach to data collection should be used so that the result is cost-effective and generates comparable statistics (see para. 29);

(e) Since the Commission on Human Settlements recommended that national policies and instruments should be the high priority area of UNCHS (Habitat) in the next medium-term plan, the Centre should increase co-operation with the regional units in the collection and analysis of national human settlements information (see para. 31);

Programme planning

(f) ECLAC and ESCWA should establish national focal points composed of governmental experts (see para. 36);

(g) All units concerned should have systematic consultations with Governments including appropriate national focal points before preparing proposed work programmes so that Governments' views might be more accurately reflected in the proposals (see paras. 35 and 36);

(h) In view of the fact that ECLAC and ESCWA do not have specialized intergovernmental bodies in human settlements, they should find some means, such as expert group meetings, to obtain an expert review of their draft work programmes before submitting them to their respective Commissions. Alternatively, they may take advantage of regional seminars and workshops for this purpose (see para. 44);

(i) The ESCAP unit should start negotiations with potential donors early enough to provide its Commission and CPC with information on projects for which donors have been identified; this should assist the Commission and CPC to have a better idea of the actual components of the secretariat's work programme (see para. 52);

(j) The Secretariat units concerned with human settlements should present to their intergovernmental bodies a clear picture of their resource situation so that mandates given could be more commensurate with the available resources (see para. 55);

(k) In order to ensure the implementation of the recommendations arising from internal monitoring and self-evaluation exercises, all the units concerned should establish mechanisms for follow-up purposes (see para. 66);

(l) Clear procedures should be established to ensure the linkages between research and non-research activities at the working level (see paras. 69 to 71);

Programme results

(m) A single page reader survey questionnaire should be inserted in all major human settlements publications, the results periodically assessed and appropriate changes made in the publications (see para. 87);

Dissemination of information

(n) Units concerned should develop an overall strategy for information dissemination. To this end, suggestions made by the national focal points and non-governmental organizations should be solicited and taken into consideration (see paras. 104 to 105);

(o) An overhaul of mailing list should be undertaken by all units. With the assistance of national focal points, appropriate Governmental experts in each country should be identified. Major academic and research institutions in each country and concerned non-governmental organizations should also be identified. After identifying the potential users, specialized mailing lists should be prepared in order to ensure that users will receive those materials which are of interest to them on a timely basis. For these purposes, the replies to the present evaluation questionnaire may be useful (see para. 100);

(p) The Centre should endeavour, to the extent that resources are available, to increase the translation of its publications into other languages; the responses to the evaluation questionnaires and other survey results should be used to determine the most pressing needs (see para. 101);

(q) In order to increase media coverage, co-operation between the United Nations information centres and the units concerned should be increased (see para. 103).

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/43/16), para. 89.

2/ Ibid., para. 90.

3/ Ibid., para. 91.

4/ Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/44/16), para. 317.

Notes (continued)

- 5/ Ibid., Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/39/38), para. 222.
- 6/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/42/8 and Corr.1), annex I, sect. A.
- 7/ See, for example, "Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment", (E/ECA/CM.15/23), para. 112 and "Report of the Forty-ninth Session of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning", (ECE/HBP/74), para. 36.
- 8/ "Resumé of Discussions, 136th session, 25 September 1989", (OES/ACPR/681), p.3
- 9/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/41/38), para. 34.
- 10/ General Assembly resolution S-13/2 of 1 June 1986.
- 11/ See the supplementary report containing views and proposals of the Economic Commission for Europe to the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council on the In-depth Study of the Intergovernmental Structures of the United Nations Economic and Social Sectors (E/ECE/1150/Rev.1), paras. 127 and 128.
- 12/ Changes include the incorporation of programme element 1.4 (Participation of the community and non-governmental organizations) into programme element 1.3 (Local governments: formulation of plans and projects at the local level and participation of the community and non-governmental organizations) and the change in the title of subprogramme 3 from "Makeshift settlements: Housing, infrastructure and services" to "Urban poverty and precarious settlements".
- 13/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Supplement No. 14 (E/1989/33), p. 16 of the English text.
- 14/ Ibid., para. 665.
- 15/ "Report on the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)", by the Joint Inspection Unit (A/44/206-E/1989/69), annex V.
- 16/ "Report on assessment of alternative energy-efficient building materials and housing designs in selected countries of the ESCWA region", (E/ESCWA/C.1/15/4/Add.10), p. 1, of the English text.
- 17/ "Reassessment of the criteria for priority-setting and the percentage of programme elements to be accorded with priority: review of priority-setting for the ESCAP programmes", (OES/ACPR/674), para. 10.

Notes (continued)

18/ Ibid., para. 17.

19/ Ibid., para. 10.

20/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/44/16), para. 90.

21/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/44/7/Add.7), para. 2.

22/ The section on "descriptions of projects proposed to be implemented during the biennium" of programme of work and priorities, 1988-1989 (E/ESCAP/IHT.10/1) includes information on the programme element to which a particular project belongs, the project title, its objective, resource requirements and activities to be undertaken as part of the project, with the implementation date for each activity. The information provided in the section assists the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment to understand the linkages between the activity, the project, the programme element and programme, although more detailed financial information would be desirable, especially the breakdown of the resource requirement for each activity.

23/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/44/7), para. 11.2.

24/ "Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1986-1987", (A/43/326), annex III.

25/ Ibid., [Add.1, tables 10.1, 11.1, 12.1, 13.1 and 14.1].

26/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/41/6), para. 14.112 and Ibid., Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/43/6), para. 14.108 and the CPC decisions on the proposed revision in Ibid., Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/43/16), para. 123.

27/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/37/6).

28/ Ibid., Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/39/6) and Ibid., Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/41/6).

29/ Ibid., Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/43/6), para. 14.26.

30/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/39/38), para. 223.

31/ See, for example, "Programme evaluation in UNCTAD" (TD/B/1145), para. 25.

Notes (continued)

32/ "Programme evaluation in UNCTAD" (TD/B/1225), para. 33.

33/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 13 (E/1987/33), para. 156. Other relevant information can be found in the annual reports of the Economic Commission for Europe (for example, E/1988/36, paras. 153-163 and E/1989/34, paras. 159-169).

34/ "Report of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment on its Tenth Session," (E/ESCAP/592), paras. 102, 113 and 129.

35/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 14 (E/1989/33), para. 295.

36/ Dennis A. Rondinelli, "Thematic review of United Nations Development Programme assistance in the urban sector", 1989. (Mimeo; preliminary draft).

37/ Ibid., p. 11.

38/ Ibid., p. 13.

39/ Ibid., p. 25.

40/ Ibid., p. 28.

41/ Ibid., p. 32.

42/ A/C.2/44/SR.11, para. 47.

43/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 14 (E/1989/33), para. 290.

CROSS-REFERENCE OF UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

UNCHS (Habitat)	DIESA	DTCD	UNURO	UNEP	UNHCR	ECA	ECE	ECLAC	ESCAP	ESCWA
1 SETTLEMENT POLICIES AND STRATEGIES • Technical co-operation • Policy analysis and formulation • Human settlements conditions • Resource allocation for integrated development • Human resources development	Development issues and policies	Integrated development planning and policies				Human settlements policy formulation	Integrated settlements policies and strategies Situation and current trends and policies Human settlements problems in southern Europe Urban renewal and modernization Human settlements statistics	Analysis of strategies for development of human settlements	Integrated settlements policies	Integration of physical planning and economic and social planning
2 SETTLEMENT PLANNING • Technical co-operation • Environmental aspects of settlement • Rural settlements development • Mechanisms and institutional structures • Planning techniques and methods supported by data-management systems • Settlements trends and prospects • Human resources development	Demographic projections (urbanization, migration, rural settlements) Social, demographic and environment statistics	Technical support for planning and co-ordination of international technical co-operation	Planning for disaster relief operations	Community preparedness for natural and man-made disasters	Planning for refugee settlements	Human settlements planning and programming Demographic analysis Trends in subregional variations in population distribution and urbanization Demographic and social statistics	Urban and regional planning Co-operation with research institutes in urban and regional research	Conditions and trends	Settlements planning	Monitoring and evaluation of human settlements situation

UNCHS (Habitat)	DIESA	DTCD	UNDOF	UNEP	UNHCR	ECA	ECE	ECLAC	ESCAP	ESCWA
3 SHELTER AND COMMUNITY SERVICES • Technical co-operation • Inner-city areas • Training in community participation • Human settlements co-operatives • Low-income shelter in urban areas • Human resources development					Emergency Shelter		Housing policies Housing forecasting and programming Rent policy Co-operation on socio-economic housing research with research institutes Development of methodology for evaluating quality and use-value of dwellings	Housing for makeshift settlements Development of appropriate housing technologies Resources for housing	Development of shelter	
4 DEVELOPMENT OF INDIGENOUS CONSTRUCTION SECTOR • Technical co-operation • Building materials and construction techniques						Construction in industry facilities Building materials	Energy conservation in buildings Promotion of international trade in building products and know-how	Construction in industry Resources for the construction sector	Development of shelter	Building materials Surveys, analysis and evaluation of the impact and effectiveness of pre-fabrication

UNCHS (Habitat)	DIESA	DTCD	UNDRO	UNEP	UNHCR	ECA	ECE	ECLAC	ESCAP	ESWA
5 LOW-COST INFRASTRUCTURE • Technical co-operation • Energy standards and technologies • Transportation, standards and technologies • Water supply sanitation and waste disposal standards and technologies		Water resources Energy re-sources assessment and exploitation		Drinking water supply and sanitation Energy and the environment Transport industry and the environment	Community development in rural and urban areas (water and sanitation)		Energy issues in urban and regional planning	Infrastructure and services in settlement shifts Development of technology for the provision of low-cost infrastructure and services	Development of infrastructure	
6 LAND • Technical co-operation • Land policies and procedures • Land tenure				Arid lands and desertification			New techniques to collect and process land-use data		Land development	
7 MOBILIZATION OF FINANCE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS DEVELOPMENT • Technical co-operation • Employment generation • Human settlements finance systems • Human resources development									Integrated settlement planning	
8 INSTITUTIONS AND MANAGEMENT • Technical co-operation • Training needs and capabilities • Management of urban centres • Institutional structures • Information systems • Dissemination of scientific and technical information	Participation of population in development Integration of women in development	Human resources for public management Management of sectoral development programmes		Human settlement planning and management		Urbanization issues Training of human settlements personnel	International harmonization of the technical content of building regulations	Management of metropolitan areas and metropolitan institutions Local governments training	Settlements management Formal and informal institutions City management Information dissemination	

Based on HS/C/12/11.

Annex II

SURVEY OF NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS

A. Activities of and services received by national focal points, utilization of information and distribution of publication

	UNCHS (Habitat)	ECA	ECE	ESCAP
Number of questionnaires sent	34	39	31	30
Number of responses	14	11	13 a/	12
Response rate	41.2%	28.2%	38.7% a/	40.0%

SUMMARY OF REPLIES

1. Activities of and services received by national focal points(a) Receipt of publications
(No. of replies)

(13)	(10)	(13)	(11)
53.8%	10.0%	92.3%	27.3%
38.5%	80.0%	7.7%	45.5%
7.7%	10.0%	0	27.3%

(b) Receipt of assistance on
research activities
(No. of replies)

(13)	(10)	(12)	(11)
15.4%	10.0%	25.0%	0
38.5%	20.0%	41.7%	9.1%
46.2%	70.0%	33.3%	90.9%

(c) Receipt of assistance con-
cerning technical co-operation
projects
(No. of replies)

(14)	(10)	(10)	(11)
21.4%	20.0%	20.0%	45.5%
35.7%	20.0%	20.0%	54.5%
42.9%	60.0%	60.0%	0

(d) Provision of views on the work
programme
(No. of replies)

(14)	(9)	(12)	(10)
50.0%	11.1%	83.3%	10.0%
28.6%	55.6%	16.7%	20.0%
21.4%	33.3%	8.3%	80.0%

	UNCHS (Habitat)	ECA	ECE	ESCAP
(e) Provision of views on the work programme (No. of replies)	(11)	(5)	(10)	(1)
(1) At sessions of intergovernmental bodies	72.7%	60.0%	50.0%	100%
(2) Through informal consultations and (1)	18.2%	0	20.0%	0
(3) At seminars/expert group meetings and (1)	9.1%	0	30.0%	0
(4) At seminars/expert group meetings only	-	20.0%	0	0
(5) At the time of project formulation or evaluation	-	20.0%	0	0
2. <u>Utilization of information received in any form</u>				
(a) Information has been:				
(1) Utilized	92.9%	54.5%	92.3%	75.0%
(2) Not utilized	7.1%	9.1%	0	0
(3) Don't know	0	18.2%	7.7%	16.7%
(4) No answer	0	18.2%	0	8.3%
(b) Used for input into policy decisions				
(1) Very useful	64.3%	18.2%	30.8%	16.7%
(2) Moderately useful	28.6%	27.3%	46.2%	16.7%
(3) Not useful	0	0	7.7%	8.3%
(4) Not used/no answer	7.1%	54.5%	15.4%	58.3%
(c) Used for guide for establishing standards				
(1) Very useful	21.4%	9.1%	15.4%	8.3%
(2) Moderately useful	42.9%	27.3%	61.5%	16.7%
(3) Not useful	7.1%	0	7.7%	8.3%
(4) Not used/no answer	28.6%	63.6%	15.4%	66.7%
(d) Used for background information for meetings				
(1) Very useful	35.7%	18.2%	69.2%	16.7%
(2) Moderately useful	50.0%	27.3%	23.1%	8.3%
(3) Not useful	0	0	0	8.3%
(4) Not used/no answer	14.3%	54.5%	7.7%	66.7%

	UNCHS (Habitat)	ECA	ECE	ESCAP
(e) Used for formulating project proposals				
(1) Very useful	50.0%	18.2%	15.4%	8.3%
(2) Moderately useful	28.6%	27.3%	61.5%	25.0%
(3) Not useful	0	0	7.7%	8.3%
(4) Not used/no answer	21.4%	54.5%	15.4%	58.3%
(f) Used for integration into publications				
(1) Very useful	14.3%	27.3%	23.1%	0
(2) Moderately useful	42.9%	0	38.5%	25.0%
(3) Not useful	21.4%	9.1%	23.1%	16.7%
(4) Not used/no answer	21.4%	63.6%	15.4%	58.3%
(g) Used for general reference/information				
(1) Very useful	57.1%	27.3%	61.5%	25.0%
(2) Moderately useful	28.6%	18.2%	30.8%	25.0%
(3) Not useful	0	0	0	0
(4) Not used/no answer	14.3%	54.5%	7.7%	50.0%
(h) Used for preparing educational/training materials				
(1) Very useful	7.1%	18.2%	23.1%	8.3%
(2) Moderately useful	57.1%	9.1%	7.7%	8.3%
(3) Not useful	7.1%	0	38.5%	16.7%
(4) Not used/no answer	28.6%	72.7%	30.8%	66.7%
3. <u>Distribution of publications</u>				
(a) No. of publications	22	15	14	15
(b) Percentage received				
(1) 100%	3	0	3	0
(2) 99 - 76%	1	0	5	0
(3) 75 - 51%	2	1	4	0
(4) 50 - 26%	5	3	1	6
(5) 25 - 1%	2	2	0	1
(6) 0	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>
Number of focal points	14	11	13	11 ^{b/}

a/ One country returned two completed questionnaires, both of which were included in the analysis. However, they were counted as one in calculating the response rate.

b/ One country did not answer the questions concerning the distribution of publications.

B. Assessment of activities**1. UNCHS (Habitat)**

	Number of replies	UNCHS (Habitat) is doing good work	UNCHS (Habitat) should improve its work	Field not relevant	Do not know UNCHS (Habitat) activities in this field
Subprogramme 1: Settlements policies and strategies	13	84.6%	7.7%	0	7.7%
Subprogramme 2: Settlement planning					
(1) Environmental aspects	13	38.5%	38.5%	7.7%	23.1%
(2) Rural settlements planning	13	30.1%	46.2%	7.7%	15.4%
(3) Subnational planning	11	18.2%	36.4%	9.1%	36.4%
Subprogramme 3: Shelter and community services	14	71.4%	14.3%	0	14.3%
Subprogramme 4: Development of the indigenous construction sector (building materials and construction techniques)	14	57.1%	35.7%	0	7.1%
Subprogramme 5: Low-cost infrastructure for human settlements					
(1) Energy standards and technologies	14	21.4%	28.6%	14.3%	35.7%
(2) Transportation standards and technologies	13	0	30.8%	30.8%	38.5%
(3) Water-supply, sanitation and waste disposal	13	53.8%	23.1%	0	23.1%

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	Number of replies	UNCHS (Habitat) is doing good work	UNCHS (Habitat) should improve its work	Field not relevant	Do not know UNCHS (Habitat) activities in this field
Subprogramme 6: Land					
(1) Land policies and legislative procedures	14	35.7%	35.7%	0	28.6%
(2) Land tenure	13	15.4%	46.2%	7.7%	30.1%
Subprogramme 7: Mobilization of finance for human settlements development					
(1) Employment generation in low-income settlements	13	15.4%	53.8%	0	30.1%
(2) Human settlements finance systems	13	7.7%	76.9%	0	15.4%
Subprogramme 8: Human settlements institutions and management					
(1) Management of urban centres	13	23.1%	46.2%	7.7%	23.1%
(2) Institutional structures	13	7.7%	61.5%	0	30.1%
Dissemination of scientific and technical information	14	71.4%	7.1%	0	21.4%

2. Economic Commission for Africa

	Number of replies	ECA is doing good work	ECA should improve its work	Field not relevant	Do not know ECA activities in this field
Subprogramme 1: Human settlements policy development and institution-building					
(1) Programming and policy formulation	8	50.0%	25.0%	0	25.0%
Subprogramme 2: Resource development and utilization					
(1) Training	8	12.5%	50.0%	0	37.5%
(2) Low-cost housing construction	8	12.5%	50.0%	0	37.5%
(3) Human settlements infrastructure	8	25.0%	37.5%	0	37.5%
(4) Building materials	8	37.5%	25.0%	0	37.5%

3. Economic Commission for Europe

	Number of replies	ECE is doing good work	ECE should improve its work	Field not relevant	Do not know ECE activities in this field
Subprogramme 1: Integrated settlements policies and strategies					
(1) Human settlements situation and related trends and policies	12	75.0%	16.7%	8.3%	0
(2) Human settlements problems in southern Europe	10	30.0%	70.0%	0	0
(3) Energy aspects of human settlements policies	9	55.6%	22.2%	22.2%	0
Subprogramme 2: Urban and regional planning					
(1) Promotion of interna- tional co-operation in the field of urban and regional research	10	50.0%	40.0%	10.0%	0
(2) Physical planning	11	45.5%	36.4%	18.2%	0
Subprogramme 3: Housing policies					
(1) Housing forecasting and programming	11	63.6%	18.2%	18.2%	0
(2) Methodologies for evaluating the quality and use value of dwellings	12	50.0%	25.0%	16.7%	8.3%

	Number of replies	ECE is doing good work	ECE should improve its work	Field not relevant	Do not know ECE activities in this field
Subprogramme 4: Building					
(1) Energy conservation in buildings	9	66.7%	0	22.2%	11.1%
(2) Information aimed at assisting inter- national trade in building products and know-how	10	50.0%	20.0%	30.0%	0
(3) International harmoni- zation of building regulations and standards	10	80.0%	10.0%	10.0%	0

4. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

	Number of replies	ESCAP is doing good work	ESCAP should improve its work	Field not relevant	Do not know ESCAP activities in this field
Subprogramme 1:					
Integrated settlements policies and planning	10	50.0%	30.0%	10.0%	10.0%
Subprogramme 2:					
Development of shelter infrastructure and land					
(1) Promotion of innova- tive and appropriate technologies	10	40.0%	30.0%	0	30.0%
(2) Low-income shelters development	10	50.0%	30.0%	0	20.0%
(3) Land policies and management	10	20.0%	30.0%	10.0%	40.0%
Subprogramme 3:					
Stimulation of institu- tional capabilities and public participation					
(1) Strengthening of institutional capabilities	9	11.1%	55.6%	11.1%	22.0%
(2) Public participation in financing and development	9	11.1%	33.3%	11.1%	44.4%

Annex III

SURVEY OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

A. Questionnaires

Habitat International Coalition

Number of questionnaires sent to the members of the Habitat International Coalition	156
Number of responses	81
Response rate	51.9%

Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

Number of questionnaires sent to non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (non-member of the Habitat International Coalition)	812
Number of responses	166
Response rate	20.4%

Of those 166 non-governmental organizations

Number involved in human settlements activities	53
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SUMMARY OF REPLIES

Number of replies included in the analysis	81 (the Habitat International Coalition)
	<u>53</u> (non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council)
	134 TOTAL

	<u>Number of replies</u>	<u>Receive publication</u>	<u>Do not receive publication</u>	<u>Do not know</u>
1. Distribution of UNCHS (Habitat) publications	134	62.7%	32.8%	4.5%
2. Distribution of publications of the regional commissions	134	13.4%	86.6%	--
3. Utilization of information	Number of non-governmental organizations receiving information	Number of non-governmental organizations using information	Those using information as a percentage of those receiving information	
	84	73	86.9%	

/...

4. Information used for:

	<u>Number of affirmative replies</u>	<u>Percentage of total responses (134)</u>
(a) Integration into publications	40	29.9%
(b) Background for meetings	48	35.8%
(c) Material for training programmes	34	25.4%
(d) Other purposes	33	24.6%

5. Usefulness of information

<u>Number of replies</u>	<u>Very helpful</u>	<u>Moderately helpful</u>	<u>Not useful</u>	<u>No answer</u>
84	29.8%	55.9%	--	14.3%

6. Interest in collaboration with UNCHS (Habitat) in various activities

<u>Number of replies</u>	<u>Interested in collaboration</u>	<u>Not interested in collaboration</u>	<u>No answer</u>
134	76.1%	4.5%	19.4%

B. Interviews

Number of non-governmental organizations interviewed: 31

1. Distribution of UNCHS (Habitat) publications

	<u>Receiving publication</u>	<u>Do not know</u>
Number of replies	30	1
Response	96.8%	3.2%

2. Utilization of information

<u>Using information</u>	<u>Not using information</u>	<u>Do not know</u>
74.2%	22.6%	3.21%

3. Usefulness of information

Number of replies: 23	<u>Very useful</u>	<u>Somewhat useful</u>	<u>No answer</u>
	52.2%	34.8%	4.3%

4. Interest in collaboration with UNCHS (Habitat) in various activities

	<u>Interested in collaboration</u>	<u>Do not know</u>
Number of replies	30	1
Percentage	96.8%	3.2%
